

Hib. 7. 769. 3

T O
HIS EXCELLENCY,
T H E
R I G H T H O N O U R A B L E,
Lord Visc. *TOWNSHEND*,
Lieutenant General, and General
Governor of *IRELAND*,
P R E S I D E N T,

His Grace, the Duke of *Leinster*,
His Grace, the Right Reverend
Archbishop of *Armagh*,
Primate of all *Ireland*.
The Right Honourable *Arthur*,
Earl of *Arran*.

The Right Honourable *John*
Ponsonby, Esq;
Thomas Le Hunt, Esq;
Redmond Morris, Esq;
The Revd. *Theophilus Brocas*,
D. D. Dean of *Killala*.

V I C E - P R E S I D E N T S .

And to the rest of the L O R D S and
G E N T L E M E N, composing that
H I G H L Y R E S P E C T A B L E Body,

T H E
D U B L I N S O C I E T Y,

The following Remonstrance is most HUMBLY
Addressed

By John Wynn Baker.

06-222

T O
HIS EXCELLENCY,
T H E
RIGHT HONOURABLE
Lord Visc. *Townshend*, &c.

My Lords and Gentlemen !

DOUBTLESS, to those, who may have but a slight knowledge of me, and of the nature of my undertakings, it may appear strange, that I should thus address my Patrons, the DUBLIN SOCIETY, who, it may be presumed are already well acquainted with what my long services have been ; but there are some few, who will not consider it strange ; because, to those few, I have unbosomed my heart, and in part they know under what a pressure of difficulties I labour.

NEITHER am I unmindful, my *most respectable Patrons*, that malice will read the following pages with a searching eye, to torture sentences and words, into meanings, which I *cannot* intend ; but to *you*, I make my Appeal : I know your discernment, I know your candour ; and as I mean with humility and truth to state *interesting* facts ; so I am persuaded you will allow the full weight to matters, which I have to lay before you.

THAT I here intend to remonstrate, I do avow ; but I *do not*, I *cannot*, mean to offend : for permit me to say, my ambition through life, has ever been to oblige ; though from an honest roughness, which nature has, (perhaps unfortunately) placed in my composition, I cannot do it by servile professions.

HOWEVER, having much reason to apprehend such misconstruction, as the one I have named ; I here
A 2 take

take the liberty, most earnestly to request, that you will be assured, no man upon earth, can have an higher sense of regard, respect and honour for your body, than I have ; and believe me, in what ever part of the world my lot may cast me ; I shall ever revere the name of the DUBLIN SOCIETY.

ALLOW me then, most humbly to entreat, that if any such attempt, as the one I apprehend shall be made ; that you will so far exercise that justice, by which I am sure you wish and mean to govern your actions, as to permit me to hear and defend, before you shall condemn.

IT is no small happiness to me, that amongst that list of respectable names which compose your body ; there are many, who have done me the honour to admit me to their friendship, and when I add to them, the very many, who would distinguish themselves on my behalf, did they reside in town, or could they attend regularly ; a very great majority of the members of your house, would appear the friends of the undertakings I am engaged in, and approvers of my conduct of them. This consideration, has reduced me to the alternative, of troubling you with this remonstrance, or of incurring the censure, of acting abruptly, in the minds of the major part of your body.—This, I hope, will be admitted as some apology, for my giving you this trouble.

I BEG at the same time, it may be conceived to be the sentiments of my heart, when I assure the SOCIETY, that nothing less than the unhappiness I feel at the mistaken representations which have been made at different times, and upon different occasions, could have prevailed upon me, to lay this remonstrance before you ; and as I am willing to hope, that mere mistake has governed the sentiments of some gentlemen, and not wilful intention of severity ; I must not, I cannot retain a doubt, but that every member of your house, will read with the same candid impartiality, which many have observed in examining my conduct, labor, hazard, and expence in your service.

HENCE I assure myself of a just, candid, and dispassionate inquisition, worthy of that dignity and virtue, which so eminently characterize the DUBLIN SOCIETY.—And as great acquisitions have been made to your numbers, since I had the honour

honour of being connected with you; and that I find, even some of your members are strangers to the nature of my employment under you, and are totally unacquainted with the manner of my being honoured with your patronage; I shall, for the fuller information of every one, and with an hope of removing some mistaken conceptions as to that particular, beg leave, in as concise a manner as I can, to lay before you, my original views in coming to *Ireland*; and how, and by what means I came under your protection.

To all who know me well, even in this kingdom, it is no secret, that in the spring of the year 1761, I experienced such a reverse of fortune, from those excesses, which the wild rage of Liberty sometimes betrays the people of *England* into, even to the endangering those very blessings which they would be thought to hold dearest; that the laws, tho' strong, were too slow to repress the hand of violence, and I, from the injuries I had received, too feeble longer to continue the contest, which had already subsisted seven years; and therefore I fell, and ruin seized me.

So singular were my injuries, and so affecting my story, that it was imagined there, I was worthy of some notice.
 * * * * * I heard, and flattering expectations fed my hopes * * * * *
 And therefore, in *September* 1761, I landed in *Ireland*, for the first time in my life, under far other expectations, than those of engaging in agriculture in any larger way, than for that pleasure and amusement which arises from a speculative practice of it.

DURING a course of near twelve months inactive attendance, I frequently employed myself in viewing the lands of a country which were new to me, and to examine the state of tillage therein; particularly, when I expected to settle in it, and that I heard in almost every company, agriculture was but indifferently executed.

AFTER I had taken such view; in the course of conversation in many companies, general hints fell from me, for plans of improvement, to propagate the practical knowledge of husbandry; and the laudable zeal of the DUBLIN SOCIETY,

SOCIETY, in the pursuit of *this*, the principal object of their institution, I heard of upon every occasion.

GENTLEMEN were pleased to think, that some things which I suggested, seemed to promise advantage thereto, and strongly solicited me to commit my thoughts to paper.

THE civilities and hospitality which I received in the houses of many, both in town and country, could not but oblige me to comply with their requests; and accordingly, I drew up in haste, the out-lines of a plan, with some general hints upon agriculture; the copy of which I gave to Mr. Flinn in *Dublin*, with whom I had no other acquaintance, than what arose from my having bought a few scarce books of him. He thought this little thing worth printing, and accordingly, the same was printed and published at *his expence*, entitled, Hints upon Husbandry, in a letter to the DUBLIN SOCIETY.—But as I had no intention or expectations of engaging myself, in any thing therein proposed, I did not put my name to it. Disappointed in the expectations which brought me to *Ireland*, I resolved to quit the kingdom; but some gentlemen who knew me to be the author of the little piece already mentioned, pressed and invited me to undertake such part of the plan therein proposed, as I imagined would contribute to the service of husbandry in this kingdom, and assured me of their friendship.—Accordingly, I returned to *England*, in order, finally to close my little affairs there, preparatory to my settling in *Ireland*.

WITH this scheme in contemplation, in *March* 1763, I took the farm, which I at present occupy; and in *January* 1764, published a short sketch of my former plan (which was distributed gratis by Mr. Faulkner in *Dublin*) in such manner as I conceived would lay the best foundation for propagating a practical knowledge of husbandry in this kingdom, for nothing but example can persuade the vulgar,) for a short abstract of which, (that I may not swell this paper) I refer to the preface to my report for the year 1764; by which it will appear, that I relied upon the publick for their protection, in an undertaking, which was perfectly new in itself.

AGREEABLY to that spirit and politeness which I had, and have since experienced in the gentlemen of *Ireland*; many, immediately became my encouragers, by an annual subscription of two guineas, according to the terms of my plan.

THUS gentlemen are candidly informed, of the cause which originally brought me to this kingdom, of the discouraging event which had moved me to quit it; and of the circumstances which at length determin'd me to settle here: And had *Ireland* been a country, in no respect inviting to a stranger, yet I should have been very easily persuaded to remain in it; for I think I could be reconciled to live in *Lapland*, almost as soon as *England*; for tho' not so cold; yet, the injuries I suffered from the outrage of its people, and the laws delay, has rendered it less desirable to me, than any other country that I know of.

I SHALL now, for the information of gentlemen who are not acquainted with it, beg leave to shew how I was introduced into that honourable connection which subsists between the DUBLIN SOCIETY and me.

I HAVE already said, that in *January* 1764, I published a short sketch of my former plan; soon after which, the SOCIETY did me the honour to elect me an honorary member of their body; of which, I had not the least intimation, nor even of its being thought of, until I was favoured with a message to attend the SOCIETY; when, upon my entering their room of meeting, I was informed of the honour they had done me; and also, that they had seen my plan; and approved of it so much, as to make me a tender of their patronage; of which it will be imagined, I could not but be ambitious; and that more particularly, as it came upon the most generous terms; unsolicited by me.

THE treaty having gone on thus far, it was proposed to give me £100, as an encouragement on their part, to proceed with my undertaking: Upon this, a difficulty arose; for it was, and is still against one of your by-laws, that any member of your body should receive any reward, emolument, or advantage for any service, beyond a gold medal.

IT

It then became a question, whether I could relinquish the honour they had done me, and the Gentlemen present, having determined that any man might withdraw himself from being a member of your corporation; the board instructed the chair to ask me, whether I would be willing to withdraw myself from being a member; *in order*, as it was politely expressed, *to give them the advantage of my labours, and the pleasure of encouraging my undertaking.*

EMBARRASSING as this question might have been, it will hardly be imagined, that I could insist upon holding the honourable mark of distinction they had been pleased to confer upon me; when the very Gentlemen who had conferred it, in such a manner, and upon such terms, asked me to relinquish it; and therefore, however reluctant, I did relinquish the being a member of your body.

THE SOCIETY then were pleased to vote me the sum of £100, as an encouragement on their part, to proceed with my undertaking; and I received their instructions, what experiments to make in the year 1764.

AND in addition to these several marks of their approbation; they were pleased, immediately to make an order, that I should always be admitted into their room of meeting, altho' I am not a member: a resolution, conferring a mark of their esteem, which I value much higher, than that of being a member; because it is singular, because I am the only man who is not a member, to whom such indulgence has as yet been allowed; and from hence it is, that I have always had the honour of a seat in your room of meeting.

It may not be an improper apology for me to say, that when I published my plan in *January 1764*, I did not know that the encouragement of the SOCIETY, extended to any undertakings beyond the bounds of their annual premiums, and therefore it was, that I did not address the plan I was engaging in, to the SOCIETY, but to the *Publick in general.*

THUS I became known to the SOCIETY; and thus it was that I shared of your bounty and encouragement: circumstances, which, from my being altogether a stranger, conveyed

an idea to me, that these several marks of distinguishing favour and approbation, were such instances of the SOCIETY's confidence; as could not but excite in my mind, a most grateful remembrance of it, as well as an ardent desire to acquit myself with an integrity and application, in some degree, answerable to such faith and generosity.

ALLOW me to say, a generosity, which I esteem much higher, than all I have received since; because, at that time, the SOCIETY knew not with any degree of certainty, whether I was in any respect capable of executing what I had proposed to the publick; or even, whether I had a sufficient sense of their confidence and generosity to prompt me to do it: Whereas, the several sums which have been advanced since at different times, and upon different occasions, have arisen from your knowledge and experience of my endeavours in your service, and thereby became my wages: But the first £100, was merely a *bounty of venture*; an *earnest* of your willingness to promote an undertaking, which, from its feasibility, promised information and example to the publick.

NEVERTHELESS, from the opposition I have lately met with, I am suspicious, that some of the gentlemen of your body are either strangers to these things, or have forgotten the repeated instructions, with which the SOCIETY has been pleased to honour me, and therefore suppose, that I have proceeded with my experiments at my own discretion. To remove then, these misconceptions, permit me in the course of this remonstrance to introduce the several instructions of the SOCIETY at different times; thereby, also to shew how far I had been justified, had I even proceeded at my own discretion; and here I shall not improperly begin with the first instructions.

ON the 5th. day of *April* 1765, the SOCIETY made the following Order, *viz.*

ORDERED,

“ THAT £100 be paid to Mr. *Baker*, to defray his expences, and as a recompense for the trouble he shall be at,
 “ in making experiments in the culture of turnips, cabbage,
 “ cabbage turnips, spring wheat, common wheat and barley; and in such other articles of husbandry, as shall be
 “ recommended by the Society; Mr. *Baker* reporting the
 “ effects

“ effects of his experiments to the SOCIETY, at the proper
“ seasons.”

THUS gentlemen see, that in the first setting out, I was instructed by the SOCIETY, as to the experiments I was to enter upon — “ *And such other articles of husbandry as shall be recommended by the Society,*” assuredly seem to convey, that it was the intention of the SOCIETY, that I should proceed further than that year, because the 5th. of April was too late to “ *recommend*” any further articles that year; but it could not be the intention that I should proceed after that year without further payment; for say they, “ *Mr. Baker reporting the effects of his experiments at the proper seasons.*” Surely, this seems to imply a succession of years; and consequently, as frequent payment for my “ *trouble and expences*”, and so the event proved.

BUT as I was a stranger to the SOCIETY, and the SOCIETY strangers to me; I could not then allow myself to build any expectations upon the emphatical constructions this order will bear; but relied wholly upon the manner that I should acquit myself, and the discernment and justice of the SOCIETY.

AND therefore, in obedience to the above instructions; and in discharge of the trust reposed in me; in February, 1765, I made my report to the SOCIETY, of the experiments and enquiries, which I had made in the preceeding year; upon which, the SOCIETY were so kind, as to pass the following resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS, which delicacy would never allow me to publish with my annual reports; because, I wished to build a fame upon my actions and conduct; and not attempt to anticipate it, by shewing the world how I stood with the DUBLIN SOCIETY.

SORRY I am, that I am reduced to the necessity of doing it at all; I did it before in the Freeman's Journal, in justification of the SOCIETY; but now, I am obliged to do it in my own; thereby to shew, how my *implicit faith and confidence in the Society*, has been excited from time to time.

“ AT a meeting of the DUBLIN SOCIETY on Thursday,
“ February 7th 1765, The Reverend Mr. Archdeacon
“ Mann informed the Society, that the Committee of the
“ *whole Society* had on Thursday last (according to order) ta-
“ ken

“ ken into consideration, the account given by Mr. *John Wynn Baker* of the experiments made by him in Agriculture, and had come to some resolutions thereupon, which he was ready to report to the SOCIETY, when they will be pleased to receive the same.”

“ ORDERED,

“ That the said report be now received.”

Then the report was read, and the material parts thereof are, as follows,

“ RESOLVED,

“ THAT it is the opinion of this Committee, that Mr. *John Wynn Baker* hath made experiments in the several articles of Husbandry, recommended by the SOCIETY, with great accuracy and skillfulness, and that he hath discharged the trust reposed in him, to the entire satisfaction of this Committee.”

“ RESOLVED,

“ THAT it is the opinion of this Committee, that it would be an advantage to the public, that an additional sum be given to Mr. *Baker*, to defray his expences, &c. and that he report the result of his experiments to the SOCIETY.

“ THEN the question being put upon each of the said resolutions, whether the SOCIETY agreed with their Committee in the same.

“ IT passed in the affirmative, *nemine contradicente*.”

AND then the SOCIETY were pleased to order me the further sum of £. 200, that I might proceed with my plan in making experiments in agriculture, for the inspection and information of the public, and that I should report the effects to the SOCIETY; and this sum was immediately ordered without a ballot, after passing the above resolutions.

THE SOCIETY voting me this sum for making experiments for the Year 1765, with the circumstance of their having been pleased to order my report to be printed, and 500 copies to be taken for their use and distribution; put my plan into such a situation, as rendered me liable to the calls and applications of all people, and of which the public availed themselves,

themselves, by applying to me personally and by letter from many parts of the kingdom ; they very properly considering this place as an academy, to which they had a right to apply for information, as I was paid by the DUBLIN SOCIETY for the public service in general ; whereas, my original plan, rendered me liable to the calls of *none* but such, as should become encouragers of my undertaking.

As I now had the strongest reasons, from the unanimous resolutions already stated, to consider myself established with the SOCIETY ; I could no longer, consistently with those disinterested motives, which, without boasting, I can say, have guided my actions, allow myself to accept of any further private encouragement from individuals ; when the DUBLIN SOCIETY, had thus adopted my plan, had thus removed it from private protection and private use, for the public service in general ; and therefore, upon these resolutions of the SOCIETY, I relinquished all further private encouragement, as many gentlemen can testify, who have, personally and by letter, proposed to be subscribers.

THE SOCIETY will permit me to appeal to their candid judgment ; whether, if I had continued, after they had thus adopted my labours, to accept of private encouragement, it would not have betrayed in me an avarice as well as diffidence of their *faith* and *stability* ? On the contrary, I had the strongest reasons to have the most implicit confidence in their protection ; and have always endeavoured to conduct their business in such a manner, as, I hoped, would insure it to me.

ON the 25th. of July, following, that is, in the Year 1765, the Society were pleased to make the following Order ; of which, the Assistant Secretary advised me by letter ; and which was the first intimation I had thereof.

“ ORDERED,

“ THAT it be recommended to Mr. *Baker*, that with all
 “ convenient speed, he will, among his experiments in
 “ agriculture, allot a portion of ground. (not less than one
 “ acre) for the culture of wheat in drills, horse-hoing the
 “ intervals ; and that he also allot another portion of ground,
 “ (the same quantity) for the culture of wheat in broad-cast ;
 “ that these two portions of ground lie as contiguous to each
 “ other

“ other, and as much of the same sort of soil as may be ;
 “ that they be both sown with the same seed, and that Mr.
 “ *Baker* report his observations, resulting from this experi-
 “ ment to the Society.”

HERE it appears, that I was absolutely, and without consulting me how far it might be compatible with the disposition of my experiments then depending, instructed to enter upon a set of comparative experiments on the culture of wheat ; and expressly on the *drill culture* of it.—It will hardly be imagined that the SOCIETY could possibly mean, that I should only make that single experiment : to suppose so, would certainly have been an affront to them, and disgraceful to me ; because a single experiment for one year could not answer the question of the SOCIETY ; which it is manifest was calculated, to ascertain the comparative merit, of the two species of culture named in the order ; but had I gone further in the enquiry than the SOCIETY intended, they surely would have signified it to me.

AND yet, after I entered upon this comparative experiment, I frequently heard that some gentlemen were dissatisfied that I entered upon it at all ; and were of opinion that I should turn my attention to winter pastures ; I had first begun upon them ; and had I been suffered to follow my own choice, I should have pursued them for a longer time, for many reasons ; but *then* it was urged that this is a grass country, and that they were not necessary ; and whilst I was upon them, some were complaining that I entered not upon wheat, forgetting that my first instructions were out of time, and that for wheat, the land requires a years preparation.—Here I began to find the impossibility of pleasing every one. I obeyed my instructions, and yet I found dissatisfaction grow every day ; and I own my mind began to be disturbed, because *I wished to oblige*.—Amongst such a variety of opinions, what could I do ? —I imagined, (and I hope properly) the direct line for me, was implicitly to follow the instructions which the SOCIETY were pleased to give me.

I DO not to this day, know who the gentleman was, that moved the SOCIETY for these instructions ; and I am sure no member will say I was ever consulted about it, or that I knew any thing of it, until the order was made.

PERMIT

PERMIT me, my *much honour'd Patrons*, to appeal to your united judgment as a body, and to every member individually, whether the SOCIETY's making orders of this kind, instructing me to enter upon experiments, which shall take up *Years* to execute, is not tacitly informing me, that I shall be paid for my *trouble and expence*, as your resolutions express it?—Would it not be highly injurious in me to come before the SOCIETY, and enquire whether they will pay me, for executing such orders?

AND yet, unhappily, it has latterly been a matter of doubt, a matter of debate, when the very order which instructs me, is an implied *contract* on the part of the SOCIETY: upon the *faith* of that, I prepare for, and execute, my *trust* and *confidence* being in the *honour of the Society*, of which, their order of instructions is the *pledge*.—And yet, after all, it depends upon a ballot, whether I shall be paid or not. And what renders this still more formidable to me and my undertakings is, that by a late by-law, *two thirds* must be for the affirmative, to carry this question; though I am executing under express orders, which I believe have always passed *unanimously*. I appeal to gentlemens own feeling, if when they have given their affirmative to the passing instructions for me to execute under, they can easily reconcile the giving a negative to the SOCIETY's fulfilling their part of the contract. No, I am sure they cannot, and therefore I am persuaded, when that has been the case, it has arisen from mere forgetfulness and mistake.—And if gentlemen will please to consider, a negative in this case, as to my being paid for executing as I am instructed, is a negative upon the preceeding transaction of the Society.

I SHALL beg leave to take notice of another circumstance, that shortly followed the order of instructions just now recited, which could not but very much increase my confidence in the honour of the SOCIETY. Namely, that of your petitions to Parliament in the Session of 1765, and repeated again in the Session 1767, in both which you say :

“ THAT your petitioners have at considerable expence,
 “ caused several experiments to be made, in various methods
 “ of farming, and have established a manufactory of im-
 “ plements

“ plements of husbandry, according to the latest practice of
 “ the best English farmers. They have also bound appren-
 “ tices to a gentleman eminently skilled in the theory, and
 “ experienced in the practice of agriculture; several boys,
 “ who were educated in the work-house of Dublin, and are
 “ now maintained at the expence of the SOCIETY, it being
 “ their intention to keep a succession of apprentices, in
 “ order to supply the distant parts of the country, with
 “ skilful workmen and husbandmen.”

THE SOCIETY hereby conferred an honour upon me so singular in itself, and I believe totally unprecedented for them, to rest any part of the merit of their petitions to parliament for aid, upon the services they had been pleased to think the publick had received from me, an individual employed by them, that my gratitude doubly animated my zeal in their service; and when I have compared their repeated resolutions, with the words of these petitions, I could not but suppose myself *firmly established* with the SOCIETY, and that my undertakings would ever share your parental care, protection and encouragement, without hazard, so long as my conduct and application to them should stand unimpeached.

ON the 13th of *March* 1766, after passing resolutions similar to those already recited, the SOCIETY were pleased to vote me the sum of £200 to proceed with, and extend my experiments that year; and I do not recollect, that any difficulty arose upon the question.—This was a further confirmation of the reason I had to consider myself established with the SOCIETY.

ON the 24th of *June* following, as if misfortune was determined to pursue me, it may be remembered my whole affairs were overthrown by an accidental fire. Unsolicited, and unknown to me, until I saw it in the publick papers, the SOCIETY, most kindly and humanely, addressed the publick on my behalf; for which I cannot but repeat my most grateful acknowledgments.

WHEN I added this circumstance to the repeated resolutions of the SOCIETY, and the honourable mention of my undertakings in their petition to Parliament a few months before; I considered it as the strongest and most striking
 testimony

testimony I could have of their anxiety for the re-establishment of my undertakings, and assured myself, that nothing less than some great negligence in my conduct, could endanger that protection, which I had such *repeated reasons to confide in.*

AND yet, when it came before the SOCIETY on the 5th of June 1767 to determine the payment of my annual stipend, for answering the calls of the publick, and for repeating and extending the experiments for the succeeding year, (some of which were then depending *under your express instructions.*) I was surprised by a *splitting* of my annual allowance, and giving me only £ 100 instead of two.

I OWN I was much surprised at this; and that more particularly, as it *followed the unhappy event of my fire*, which the SOCIETY had so emphatically recommended to the consideration of the publick; but I was desired by the Vice-President then in the chair, *to proceed with the same alacrity in the prosecution of my undertakings which I had practised, and not to be discouraged; for, that I might rest assured of being supported as liberally as ever by the Society.*

THE Vice President would not have given me this assurance, if it had not been the sense of the SOCIETY then assembled; and this gentleman, I thank GOD, for mine and the sake of the publick is yet alive, and if what I have here recited be not true, his love of justice and truth, I am sure will induce him to confute me.

IF I had never had any other inducement to confide in the *honour* of the SOCIETY, I submit it to gentlemen, whether this assurance from your chair was not such, as any man of common faith would, and ought to have relied upon? and therefore I remained satisfied with that assurance; concluding that perhaps, some reasons of immediate œconomy were necessary, which became not me to enquire into.

AND yet, what appeared to me more extraordinary than all, was, that upon the ballot of the 11th of December following for the £ 100 of which I had been abridged for my service of that year, there appeared 35 negatives, and although the question was carried by a majority of fourteen

fourteen (for which I am truly thankful to every gentleman on that side) yet, I could not but be much alarmed at such an event.

AN event, which I was totally at a loss to account for; because it was so diametrically opposite to the repeated resolutions of the SOCIETY, the tendency of their petitions to Parliament (that of 1767 just having gone into the house) their address to the publick in my behalf, after the fire, and so contrary to the solemn assurances which I received from the chair on the 5th of *June*, in manner already mentioned; and repugnant to the instructions which I had received from time to time, and under which I was acting.

BUT upon enquiring who the minority were, I had the mortification to find, that prejudices had arisen in the minds of gentlemen, who had not given themselves time to appeal to the judgment of their eyes in preference to that of their ears, and who therefore were unacquainted with what I had been doing in their service and that of the publick. I had the mortification to find that these prejudices owed their growth and influence to unkind misrepresentations, to personal disappointments, and, even in some cases, to my not having passively yielded to personal affront.

WITH a tone of contempt, tacitly signifying it as an apology for the treatment I have sometimes received, I have been called the servant of the SOCIETY: As such, I am proud of being considered; but there are degrees of servants in every station of life; and in proportion to the exalted dignity of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, by so much I consider myself as honoured by that service; because it is not the service of a slave, it is not the service of a porter; but it is a service of trust and confidence: How far I have acquitted myself therein, I appeal to the annual resolutions of the SOCIETY, their petitions to Parliament, and the sentiments of the publick.

UPON these principles, my *much honoured Patrons*, permit me to appeal to your candour and justice; how right it is, that I, as *your servant*, should be embarrassed by a doubt, whether I shall be paid for my "trouble and expence" in carrying on and extending your experiments; experiments, which you have from time to time directed, as *your own resolutions*, are

my witnesses, and which I have been, and am now carrying on under your *express instructions*.

I AM not unmindful, that it will be urged, the SOCIETY pay me before-hand for my experiments : in some few cases I admit they have done so ; but were that the case in every particular, I humbly conceive, it is not therefore conclusive, that my undertakings, (which are connected like a chain, one link of which being broken renders the whole useless) should suddenly and abruptly be overthrown : But the case is far otherwise ; and must always, unavoidably be so with *every* experiment sown in autumn, and generally with every one sown in spring also ; which every gentleman acquainted with country business will easily conceive, for the seasons offer but once a year. But from the faith, which a man in my situation must, and ought to have in the SOCIETY ; preparations for succeeding experiments, and the bulk of the expence must commence long before the question comes under your consideration as to the payment ; which renders my case particularly hard ; because, after that preparation in a great measure is executed, and the expence incurred, it remains a matter of chance, whether I shall be paid or not : And therefore, I am thrown altogether, as to my part, upon the faith I have in the SOCIETY, and in which, I could not but have the most implicit confidence, for the many reasons already mentioned ; and therefore, the obstructions which have happened, must be the more alarming to me. But if my service be no longer necessary, or such undertakings are thought unworthy the protection of the SOCIETY ; I humbly submit it to their consideration, whether it would not be right to pay me my wages without a negative, as all other servants are paid, and then dismiss me honourably or reproachfully, as all other servants are dismissed, according to their deserts.

ALTHO' it is with the greatest pleasure, that I have considered myself as a servant to the SOCIETY ; and tho' it has always been with eager chearfulness that I have obeyed, and answered the calls of any member of the SOCIETY ; yet, I humbly apprehend, that my being a servant to your corporation, does not render me a servant to any individual thereof ; neither do I conceive, that it gives any one a latitude to treat me beneath that character, which I have hitherto, and I hope, always shall support.

STILL

STILL admitting myself in the capacity of a servant to the SOCIETY; I hope I have not been mistaken in considering it a service peculiar in itself; and perhaps the most honourable, which has been appointed since your institution; because it is a service, which, in every stage, and every circumstance attendant upon it, is calculated for co-operating with, and promoting, the original design of your institution; and corresponds immediately with the basis of your charter: Thence arises that intercourse which the SOCIETY honoured me with, by their resolution of admitting me into your room of meeting; and, hence arises that *mutual faith* and *confidence* which should subsist between the Society, and a man employed as I am.

CONSCIOUS that I ever exercised my utmost endeavours to acquit myself with that integrity which you had a right to expect, and wishing that the SOCIETY should be well informed by *inspection* into what I am doing in your service; I did request some gentlemen to move for a committee to come down hither occasionally to examine into the manner of my conducting your business, and the nature of my conduct in your service; and accordingly, such a committee, amounting to *thirty seven*, was appointed on the 20th day of *March*, 1766, as will appear upon your books; and I myself drew out the list of the names composing that committee, which names are upon your paper. This was as much as I could do, to shew how willing and desirous I was, that the SOCIETY should be *well, truly, and fully* informed of my application or negligence: But I never was so happy as to have the attendance of this committee.

MANY individuals, members of the SOCIETY, have frequently, (I may almost say daily) visited me; and some have been generous enough to tell me, they came to view my labours, prejudiced against me: Favourable representations have been frequently made by such gentlemen at your meetings: And yet, unkind suggestions have been frequently thrown out by some, who have never seen what I am doing; but seemed to have formed their opinions upon the representations of some person or persons, whose conduct, perhaps, I may have had much reason to be dissatisfied with in other particulars, as will hereafter appear; and thence, unmerited and

unprovoked prejudices have been productive of attempts, injurious to me and my undertakings.

THIS committee never having visited me, and I finding that misrepresentations grew, and began to operate upon the minds of some gentlemen of your body, whose approbation I am ambitious of; I determined to take a more publick step, to shew how little I feared, but rather, how much I wished publick inspection; and therefore, in the month of *May* 1768, by repeated advertisement in the *Dublin Journal* (as the most circulating paper in this kingdom) I invited all degrees of men to come and view my experiments then depending; and indeed the numbers who came from all parts, of every degree, were very pleasing to me; and I did hope, the very act of inviting the publick in that manner, would have removed some of the prejudices which had been conceived.

BUT when the question came before you last spring, respecting my annual allowance for this year's experiments; I could not but be greatly shocked at finding, upon the conclusion of that question, an amendment to your proposed resolutions, which conveys an insinuation of doubt, respecting my executing the experiments.—That I may not be misunderstood, I shall beg leave to transcribe the proceedings and resolutions of the SOCIETY respecting me on the two days, which related to this business, as they stand upon your books.

At a meeting of the DUBLIN SOCIETY,
April 20, 1769.

“ DR. LAW reported from the committee for agriculture, pursuant to an order of the SOCIETY of the 2d of *March* last, the said committee having taken into consideration Mr. *John Wynn Baker*'s report of experiments in agriculture, made in the year 1768, under the SOCIETY's directions, had come to the following resolutions.”

“ RESOLVED”

“ THAT it appears to this committee that Mr. *John Wynn Baker* hath fully discharged himself of the trust re-
“ posed

“ posed in him by the SOCIETY, in making experiments in
“ agriculture for the year 1768.”

“ RESOLVED,”

“ That it is the opinion of this committee that the en-
“ abling of Mr. *Baker* to proceed in repeating and extending
“ his experiments, would conduce much to the improvement
“ of agriculture in this kingdom.”

RESOLVED,”

“ THAT is the opinion of this committee that it would
“ be of great use, if Mr. *Baker* were directed by the So-
“ CIETY to extend his experiments particularly in regard to
“ the maintainance of cattle both in summer and winter
“ seasons.”

“ RESOLVED,”

“ THAT it is opinion of this committee, that the printing
“ of Mr. *Baker*'s report of experiments in agriculture made
“ in the year 1768, would be of great advantage to the
“ publick.”

“ THEN the question being severally put upon each of
“ the said resolutions, the SOCIETY agreed with their
“ committee in the same.”

“ ORDERED,”

“ THAT it be an *instruction* to Mr. *Baker* to extend his
“ experiments in regard to the maintainance of cattle, both
“ in the summer and winter seasons.”

“ PROPOSED,”

“ THAT the sum of £200 be paid to Mr. *John*
“ *Wynn Baker*, to defray the expence, and as a recom-
“ pence for the trouble he shall be at, in repeating and
“ extending his experiments this present year.”

“ ORDERED,”

“ THAT the said proposal do lie on the table according to
“ a by-law.

“ PROPOSED,”

“ PROPOSED,”

“ THAT one thousand copies of Mr. *Baker's* report of experiments in agriculture for the year 1768, be printed for the use of the SOCIETY, at a price not exceeding one shilling and one penny each.”

“ ORDERED,”

“ THAT the said proposal do lie on the table according to a by-law.

At a meeting of the DUBLIN SOCIETY,
May 4, 1769.

“ The SOCIETY having taken into consideration the proposal of the 20th of *April* last, of paying to Mr. *Baker* the sum of £200, to defray the expences, and as a recompence for the trouble he shall be at in repeating and extending his experiments in agriculture this present year.”

“ A MOTION was made for an amendment in the said proposal, by inserting the words *one hundred pounds*, instead of the words *two hundred pounds*, and the question being put,”

“ It passed in the negative.”

“ A MOTION was then made, that the said proposal be amended, by standing as follows.”

“ THAT the sum of £100 be now paid to Mr. *John Wynn Baker* towards defraying his expences in repeating and extending his experiments in agriculture the ensuing year, and also the further sum of £100 on the first *Thursday* in *December* next, as a full recompence for his trouble and expences in pursuing the same. *Provided it shall appear by a report from the committee for agriculture, which report must be agreed to by the SOCIETY, that he*
“ *shall*

“ *shall have faithfully and fully executed the trust reposed in him.* And the question being put,”

“ It passed in the affirmative, without a division.

“ THEN the SOCIETY having proceeded to ballot on the said proposal so amended, and the question being carried in the affirmative.”

“ ORDERED,”

“ THAT the sum of £.100 be now paid to Mr. *John Wynn Baker*, towards defraying his expences in repeating and extending his experiments in agriculture the ensuing year, and also the further sum of £100 on the first *Thursday* in *December* next, as a full recompence for his trouble and expences in pursuing the same ; provided it shall appear by a report from the committee for agriculture, which report must be agreed to by the SOCIETY, that he shall have faithfully and fully executed the trust reposed in him.”

“ ORDERED,”

“ THAT, pursuant to a proposal of the 20th of *April* last, 1000 copies of Mr. *Baker's* report of experiments in agriculture for the year 1768, be printed for the use of the SOCIETY, at a price not exceeding 1s. 1d. each.”

“ PROVIDED, it shall appear by a report from the committee for agriculture, which report must be agreed to by the SOCIETY, that he shall have faithfully and fully executed the trust reposed in him.

IF the gentleman who proposed this addition, by way of a third amendment, to the amended, amendment, had any real foundation for supposing, that I should now fail in point of integrity or application, in discharge of the trust you had *proposed* to intrust me with, according to your *annual* and customary manner ; I conceive it was his indispensable duty to inform the SOCIETY thereof ; because, when there really is any foundation for apprehending, that so old a servant as I am ; and one, in whom much confidence must unavoidably be reposed from the nature of my employment ; should be capable

pable of disingenuity in any respect ; it would be full and warrantable reason for your not reposing any further confidence at all ; but disgraceful to you, to hold any farther intercourse or connection with me.—But if he cannot shew any reason for such insinuation ; of which he will be convinced, if he will come hither ; surely, every man of candour and generosity ; every man who is tenacious of his own character ; will see with abhorrence, the injustice of insinuations, which imply diffidence, (because diffidence implies imputation) when no real cause can be shewn ; except what arises from unmerited prejudice.

WHEN this amendment to the amended amendment was proposed, it was only the motion of *one* man, but when it passed your board, it then became the act of your body ! From that circumstance my feelings are *sensibly touched* ; and therefore I beg, to dwell a little upon the subject, with an hope of its being hereafter explained ; for otherwise, it must remain an uncontroverted, and unimpeached record upon your books, of imputation upon me, whose name frequently appears therein, in another manner ; and were I to pass over in silence this measure ; it is not improbable, but shortly, that might be urged as a tacit acquiescence and consciousness, that I merit the imputation which the amendment implies.

AND I am encouraged to solicit this explanation ; because I am sure the SOCIETY would not in their united capacity, willingly stigmatize any man with injurious insinuations, whose delinquency they are not assured of ; and more particularly one, whom they have so frequently, so publicly, and so solemnly distinguished, by many singular marks of favour and approbation.

WHERE confidence and approbation is mutually subsisting, it is, from principles ingrafted in the heart of man, productive of one of the noblest sentiments, human nature is capable of,—*Friendship*: a writer, who probes the virtuous passions as much as any other I know of, says ;

“ ——— Friendship, delicate as dear ;
Of tender violations apt to die,
Reserve will wound it, and distrust destroy.”

THO'

THO' I am persuaded, this third amendment passed by surprize, and not with any intention of imputation on the part of the SOCIETY at large; and tho', had that been the mode of proceeding from the beginning, no reflection could have arisen from it.—Yet, its coming at *this* time of day, induces me to think it was rather proposed with a view to some future purpose.—

WE have frequently seen it has been the intentional practice of invidious men, to stain publick characters in the highest offices of trust and confidence, by insinuations, when no matter of charge can be brought against them: And those insinuations, from the various and inventive genius of mankind, have so inflamed the imagination, that many amiable characters have been held in the utmost detestation; when perhaps, a positive proof of an improper conduct would not have been so injurious—Hence it seems, that the artful assassins of publick or private characters, and who wish to stab a reputation home to the very vitals, rather prefer the poinard of insinuation, than attempt a positive charge of dishonour.

I SHALL not here name the gentleman who proposed this amendment, but if he had any real foundation to imagine, that I should not execute, or put in practice the experiments which your committee, (to whom my report had been referred) had recommended; his *duty* to the SOCIETY, his *duty* to the publick, his *regard* to that honour, which should fill the breast of every member of your house, calls like a trumpet upon him to rise, and declare it; in order, thereby, to banish me from your presence for ever: But if he cannot support the charge, which the insinuation apparently conveys, that regard which every man should have to right, in preference to wrong, should induce him to rise, and make me full reparation—But, if equity shall not sufficiently influence his breast to do so, I presume to rely upon the honour, justice and virtue of the SOCIETY, to call for an explanation of this matter, in which I think myself materially injured.

WHEN I saw this amendment in print; I own, my mind was wounded by it; and I immediately flew to some gentlemen who were present on that days meeting; to whom, I expressed

expressed my feelings upon the measure; they saw my reasons, and admitted they felt them; but urged as a palliative, that the principle, upon which the amendment passed without opposition was, that I was not afraid of inspection; on the contrary, that I wished it: — I *have*, and *do so*; my causing a committee to be struck before, as I have already mentioned, and my inviting the publick by advertisement, *prove it*; but yet, this argument flowed only from principles of humanity, to a mind, which they saw had much reason to be wounded; but palliatives only abate inflammation, they do not heal the wound.

FOR I appeal to any gentleman then present, who may have been newly admitted a member, whether from the words of the amendment, he did not, if he considered it, conceive in his own mind that this amendment insinuated, that this Mr. *Baker* is apprehended to be a knave? And this event being followed, by the feeble and malicious attack in the *Freeman's Journal*, renders the amendment much more interesting to me; and permit me to think, not totally disinteresting to the honour of the SOCIETY.

BEFORE I proceed further, I beg leave to consider *this* amendment to the amended amendment in another point of view; for the amendment to reduce my salary, and the other to postpone the payment of a part, were the proposals of one gentleman, but the conclusive addition, by which I think myself *more materially injured*, was the proposal of another and distinct person; and therefore, I hope I am understood as treating them distinctly; for the amendment proposing the abatement, arose from mere matter of opinion, that my merit is not worth £200, but may be worth £100— but I trust, and am not without hope that, that gentleman, (whose abilities make me wish for his approbation) when he reconsiders all circumstances, will think with the *majority*, that I am fully entitled to the £200, for which the SOCIETY's instructions to execute, are my *pledge* of their faith, however little he may think of my service, which, I own, I esteem at an higher price than he did, when he proposed the reducement.

BUT

BUT the conclusive addition, by way of a third amendment, by the second person, seems to carry more daggers than one, and shews more design than could readily be seen in so sudden a determination ; for said he,

“ *Provided*, it shall appear by a report from the committee of agriculture—————that he shall have *faithfully* and *fully* executed, &c.

THE *proviso*, seems to imply a bar to my being paid this £100, altho’ the experiments are in part finished, and part depending, under the *express instructions of the SOCIETY on the 20th of April last*.—Suppose the committee for agriculture should never examine the experiments, (if it was intended that they should) in that case it seems to imply that I am not to be paid ; for they can’t report if they don’t examine.—And where is their power to examine ? They are neither requested or instructed by the SOCIETY to do so. —The gentleman should certainly have moved for such instructions, but that would not have answered his design ; which it is manifest, was to stain me with imputation, and to more embarrass my affairs. He knows it is not easy to raise a committee to attend in town ; how much more difficult eight miles from town, he saw no doubt, and of which the non-attendance of the committee of *thirty-seven* already mentioned is a proof.

PERHAPS he may urge, that his amendment *implies* an instruction from the SOCIETY to the committee for agriculture, and that for the honour of the SOCIETY, they will execute those implied instructions.—Upon the same reasoning, for I believe he can urge no other reason for their obedience ; I appeal to him, whether I have not a right, for the *honour* of the SOCIETY, to expect my full salary, when I am for *their honour*, and in obedience to *their express*, and not *implied* instructions, executing their experiments ? It is plain the *majority* think so, or they would not have given a *negative* to the proposed abatement.

AND the very words “ *trust reposed* ” in this gentlemen’s amendment shews he is conscious of my having been *instructed* by the SOCIETY, as to the direction of my enquiries.

WHAT

WHAT he meant by "*faithfully*" speaks for itself; that he would tacitly tell the publick, that I am not faithful, and require good looking after.—I am obliged, much obliged to him.—

HOWEVER, it is some consolation to me, that the SOCIETY have every year passed resolutions, that hitherto I have *faithfully and fully* discharged the trust they had reposed in me.

WHAT the gentleman means by "*fully*" will really bear a very enlarged explanation: For, to have "*fully executed the trust reposed in me*" would be to execute, compleat and finish the experiments and enquiries the SOCIETY have recommended *particularly*, as well as those implied under their words "*repeating and extending*." So, that according to this gentleman's expectations; I am, from the 4th of *May*, 1769, to the 7th of *December* following——to consume all my winter pastures before the season of tryal, as to their merit and use comes on; and which, for the information and inspection of the publick amount to nine acres; six of which, are different kinds of cabbages: I am to repeat the experiments I have already made, and I am "*fully*" to investigate, the *whole body and tribe of manures*.—All this, according to this gentleman's "*fully*" is to be executed in *seven months and three days*!—I thank my God, I am not serving, *all*, such hard masters; for this "*fully*" demands impossibilities.

So far, the gentleman levelled at me; but even the Committee for agriculture could not escape his censure: For, at the same time, that by his "*faithfully*" he would insinuate that I am *unfaithful*, yet he makes my powers a compliment; in supposing me capable of corrupting the committee for agriculture; for it is plain, he was afraid to trust to their report; or he could not have introduced the words——"*which report must be agreed to by the SOCIETY*" for they were unnecessary, as being matter of course.

If the gentleman denies *this* construction of those very *significant* words, what construction can they bear?—The £100 is already determined to be paid, upon a ballot, by a majority of *ten to one*. Does he mean those *words* to make the
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the determination, a *second* question? I hope not, because that would seem to be playing with the honour and solemn determinations of a body, of which I have heard him speak with reverence.

MY *much honoured Patrons* ! — This conclusive amendment, carries an imputation with it, which no honest man can bear : Men who mean to pick your pockets, will fawn, and cringe, and flatter ; they will submit to such rubs, and much more ; I have seen them do it ; provided they can get yours, or any other publick money ; and then will be hardy enough to say they never meant to pursue the measure for which it was granted : But honest truth, cannot brook the stain of falshood ; and subject to such insinuations, I would not serve any man, or any body of men upon earth.—I have been your truly faithful, your diligent servant ; I can call GOD to witness, totally disregarding my own emolument, that I might the more effectually co-operate with your views.—All I now ask, all I now beg, is a thorough investigation of this injury, either to acquit or condemn me of the implied imputation, and I will thank you ; with all my heart, I will thank you.

IN the preceding part of this remonstrance, I have presumed, my *much honoured Patrons*, to lay before you, how my confidence and trust on your annual allowance for this department of making experimental enquiries, has been excited by your own *resolutions*, and your own *instructions*.

YOU having instructed me on the 20th of last *April*, as just now recited, to employ my attention on the cheap and plentiful winter, and summer pasturing of cattle ; when I added those, your recent instructions, to one of a more extensive nature, which passed on the 23d of *March* last, respecting manures, in the words following, I could not but consider them as further, and recent confirmations of my pretensions to that dependance ; because these kind of enquiries must be attended with a great consumption of time, an employment of my land ; accurate, and careful application, and considerable expence.

At

At a meeting of the DUBLIN SOCIETY,
March 23d 1769.

“ ORDERED,”

“ That it be recommended to Mr. *John Wynn Baker*,
“ to give particular attention in the course of his future ex-
“ periments, to the efficacy of the different species of
“ manures in tillage and meadow; that for this purpose,
“ he divides some one exhausted field into as many different
“ parts, as he can procure different kinds of manure to
“ make trial of; that he report to this SOCIETY the success
“ of the various manures, upon that particular soil; and
“ that it be further recommended to Mr. *Baker*, to make
“ the same experiments, if it may be done, upon different
“ soils.”

I HAPPENED to have the honour of being present when this order of instructions was made for the investigation of manures; but never heard any thing of it, until the gentleman who moved for these instructions, spoke to me in your own room upon the subject about half an hour before he made the motion; which, to the best of my recollection, was the first time I ever in my life, had the pleasure of any conversation with him.

IT has always been with the greatest pleasure, that I have received instructions from the SOCIETY as to the direction of my conduct and pursuits, because they are a living justification to me upon record amongst your transactions; they imply incontestably, that I am your engaged servant to execute such enquiries; and because they amount on the part of the SOCIETY, to a *tacit* and *implied contract* and *engagement* with me, for all the time that such enquiries and investigations will require.

AFTER such instructions, and those repeated upon different subjects; permit me humbly to appeal to you, whether it would not be considered as the highest insult I could offer to the dignity and honour of the united body of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, to suppose a possibility of doubt whether

whether I should be paid or not, for my labour and expences in obeying and executing your several instructions.

I APPEAL even, to the few gentlemen who have for two or three years past, opposed my annual allowance for this department being paid; whether, if after such instructions to any man, he were to say to any one of them, "*I doubt the SOCIETY will not pay me,*" such member would not be much offended, and feel greatly for the indignity offered by such person to the SOCIETY?

WILL gentlemen then be so good as to consider, how much they endanger the dignity and honour of the SOCIETY in opposing my annual salary, when I am acting, expressly under *instructions*, which pass your board with *form and solemnity*, and I believe, always, hitherto, unanimously?

UPON the whole, permit me to appeal to the honour and justice of the SOCIETY, and to the feelings of every member individually; whether so precarious a situation as this, in which I have truly represented myself, is fit for any man to work upon, where certain and heavy expence, constant, and never ceasing application, with something more than every man is capable of, is to be the labour! No,—I must, I will believe, that when gentlemen come to consider the hardness of my case, they will see the impropriety of my undertakings, thus trembling upon the verge of a precipice; the impropriety of their employing a man in such engagements under *positive instructions*; and then to make it a matter of chance whether he shall be paid; a matter of discretion, on the side of the employer, and instructor, whether he shall be paid a part only of his usual wages; when the very instructions give him *an implied promise of the whole*. No, I must, I will believe, until I am convinced of the contrary, that gentlemen who have been on that side the question; will, with generosity, being thus reminded of the SOCIETY's *instructions*, acknowledge they have been mistaken; I think equity, justice, and the regard they must have for the honour of the SOCIETY, will lead them to such declaration.

BUT if, from some strange fatality, the contrary shall be their sentiments; pardon me, my much honoured patrons,
that

that I declare, —————

——I cannot remain, in so precarious a service. I can scarce afford to serve you in this department, upon the terms I have received; and cannot at all, upon any reduced or abridged terms: The nature of the employment will not admit of it.—

BUT if this department, be thought worthy your protection under my care, abate the contingency, and appoint inspection as frequently as you please, let there be regular meetings here at stated times, and I shall be your diligent, and most faithful servant.—

MY report, for the year 1768 was delivered in, on the 2d of *March* last; your instructions for my entering upon the investigation of manures passed on the 23d of the same month, and the question for my annual payment did not come under consideration, until the 4th of *May*, when it met with opposition in manner already mentioned. By this delay, I lost the spring season for entering upon the enquiries respecting the manures; and from the appearance of opposition which attended the two former annual determinations, I humbly submit to the consideration of the SOCIETY, what spirit I could have to enter upon so new, and so large a field, altho' I was instructed by the SOCIETY to do so, when it remained a matter of contingency whether I should be paid for my trouble and expence? the event shewed that my timidity and doubts, were not ill founded, for tho' I was positively and "particularly" instructed; yet, the defalcation of £100 was attempted upon my annual allowance, and yet remains a matter of some little (tho' I don't think much) contingency; for when the committee, (appointed by the amendment I have spoken of) shall do me the honour to make their scrutiny, I flatter myself the exhibition I shall offer to their inspection, will meet with their approbation; and I hope the gentleman who proposed that amendment will be one of the inspecting committee.—

As to the instructions which you were pleased to give me on the 23d of *March* for investigating the efficacy of manures, "in tillage, and upon meadow." I cannot suppose the SOCIETY expect a thorough investigation of that subject, in one, two, or even three years, or even twice that time.

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It is a subject of such a nature, as requires more than common care, something more than common knowledge of country business ; an apparatus, such as farmers are not acquainted with, for tracing such an inquiry into its inmost recesses ; and a mind to conduct the enquiries, not embarrassed by the difficulties, and doubts, which these undertakings have involved me into.

THE very respectable and honourable majority which appeared upon the seeming compromise of the question on the 4th of *May*, was such as commands my grateful acknowledgments ; and I own, such, as might highly gratify any man, upon almost any other question that could arise, except such a one as this ; because I am acting under express and positive instructions ; and therefore, beg leave to think, that I am as much entitled to my wages without abridgment or delay, as any other servant of the Society : I give my *time*, *land*, and *expence*, others only their *time*. And had gentlemen known my mind, I had much rather the question for the full payment of my annual stipend, had met with a total negative, than to have had it split or abridged : It is true, I should have been materially hurt thereby ; how much the faith and honour of the SOCIETY would have been interested in such an event, I submit to the consideration of its members, when they shall consider that I am acting under the *positive instructions* of the SOCIETY.

PERMIT me, my much honoured Patrons, to submit a case to your consideration ; truly with an intention to be understood, and not with any intention of offence.—Suppose any man, or any body of men should direct, order, or instruct another to embark in the building an house, or to execute any other piece of work, either speculatively, or as a standing monument of convenience ; will any member of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, lay his hand upon his heart and say, calling GOD to witness his sentiments, that he can conscientiously, upon principles of equity, truth and justice, give a negative to such a man's being paid what had been customarily paid upon the like occasion ?—No, the institution of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, is upon more liberal principles, and I am sure every member of your house, has the principles of virtue and justice too deeply ingrafted in his breast to admit such an idea ; and therefore it is manifest, it is as plain as the sun at noon, that the few gentlemen who give opposition to my
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annual question, have been proceeding upon mistake, tho' injuriously to the honour of the SOCIETY, because it is under their *positive instructions* that I am and have been acting.

BUT, as the case really is, I have laid out my affairs for this business under the SOCIETY's instructions; my land, my time, and expence devoted to it; the publick look upon it as an *established* scheme under the SOCIETY's protection; that I am to answer all their calls, to give them every information they require, some of the experiments depending, and others prepared and preparing for; and when the question comes before the SOCIETY, (who are the pillar and support of the whole) as to the payment of my annual allowance for all this, if the negatives were to prevail; I am in a moment, without any previous notice at all, to be discarded; not even paid for what is depending, and the whole undertakings overthrown!—Undertakings, which the SOCIETY have held out for the publick imitation, for the publick information, and for the publick use.

MY *much honoured Patrons*, should an event like this happen, I might with the poet say,

—————All my glories,
In one short moment blasted!
Now friends like shadows, with the light will vanish,
And ev'ry tongue be ready to accuse;
All benefits forgot, each fault remember'd;
Nor will invention's baneful aid be wanting
To blacken and defame.—————

I SHALL beg leave to lay before the SOCIETY another consideration, which in *this department* of experimental enquiries, in obedience to your instructions, brings a consequential task upon me of infinite labour, of which the SOCIETY seem not to be apprised, because it is no part of your positive instructions: Namely, that of my answering the various questions and applications of the publick, not only from very many parts of this, but from the neighbouring kingdom; and yet, I have always, ever since I considered myself established with the SOCIETY, looked upon this
part

part of my business as an implied instruction of the SOCIETY; and have therefore most willingly and chearfully, answered every enquiry, whether made personally or by letter.

It is true, when any enquiries came from a neighbouring kingdom, of which I have had many, I could not consider my answering them as an implied instruction of the SOCIETY, but I considered it in another light; namely, that I am the servant of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, and that therefore, for their honour and credit, it was my duty to give every information in my power, let the enquiry come from whence it might.

THE time and application which this consequential branch of my service requires, has been and is more than can be readily conceived or imagined, and in itself is not without some expence.

AND as it is now become a material part of my business, many gentlemen with whom I correspond can testify, that I have, in order to enable myself to answer every one clearly and distinctly within a reasonable time, been obliged to adopt a method which gives expedition and relief to me. Namely, they number their queries, and keep copies of them, which enables me to refer to their queries by only writing down their numbers, and then to add my sentiments upon the subject.—Where any philosophical reasoning is necessary, they divest the query of it, and furnish that by itself: I do the same; thus I am enabled to get through a business, which otherwise would betray me into great arrears.

I HUMBLY submit to the consideration of the SOCIETY, whether it can be expected that a man is to give his time in this manner year after year without being considered for it? Particularly when the publick think him paid for it. I am assured what will be the reply in the breast of every member of the SOCIETY; and therefore hope I shall be pardoned for thinking myself amply entitled to my annual allowance, were I even to do nothing more than this; but when my application and expence in this whole department come to

be considered together, I must beg leave to say without offence, my annual salary sinks into a small pittance.

BEFORE I quit this department, I beg leave to take a little notice of the inflammatory heat with which it has many times been reiterated in the SOCIETY'S meetings to my prejudice, that I "refused to shew a gentleman's servant my instruments and experiments," attended with many reproachful, harsh, and ignominious terms of aggravation; and eventually to confirm the bitterness thereof, comparing my experiments and practical husbandry, to Gulliver's fable, of the whimsical device which he makes for one of his professors in his academy of Lagado, who proposes first planting the land with acorns, chesnuts, &c. and then turning in six hundred hogs to till the earth for sowing, by their rooting up the nuts.—The happy ingenuity of the gentleman in this analogy must certainly have made every less angry man laugh, and I hope gratified him.

I WILL not irritate, and therefore will not retort as the fruitful genius of our author gives me ample means for: I shall only relate the fact as I am informed and do believe it to have been, for I was not present, or even at home.

SOME time (I think) in the year 1766, Colonel *Otway*, of *Castle-Otway* in the county of *Tiperary*, sent a man here to see my instruments and experiments. My clerk attended him, shewed him the fields where the experiments were depending, my shops and all my instruments, and such as were made and making, and explained their uses to him: The man then informed him that he was an artificer, and that he came to take dimensions of some of my instruments; and yet, he came without any letter from Mr. *Otway*, and whom at that time I did not know, any further, than having once wrote to him upon another subject which is not necessary to mention here, and was favoured with an answer worthy of a gentleman, the particulars of which I believe my clerk was not acquainted with.

"THE clerk told the man, that every one was welcome to see every thing there was, and that if he wished to have any further explanation of the machines and their uses, that he would again explain the whole to him, at the same urging
how

how unreasonable he would think it himself, for a man to come and take dimensions of instruments, in a work carried on at very great expence ; and therefore he could not answer it to his employer, the admitting any dimensions being taken."—The servant made what report he thought proper ; and from this circumstance, many heavy and repeated complaints have been made before you, arrainging my conduct.

The first time Dr. *Loyd* mentioned this matter in the SOCIETY, it may be remembered, I was, (without explaining the complaint to me,) asked some questions as to the general tenor of my conduct to all degrees of people who come here to see, or be informed. The question I own surprized me, because I was and am conscious my conduct has been unexceptionable.—I apprehended I gave such answers to the SOCIETY that day as were satisfactory ; and it may be remembered, that I added, "if any gentleman in this house apprehends, or has represented the contrary, I rely upon that justice which guides the actions of this SOCIETY, to call upon him for an explanation, that I may not be condemned unheard."—Dr *Loyd's* complaint was not then explained to me, and therefore I concluded the general answers I gave were satisfactory to the SOCIETY ; and did consequently suppose the complaint would never be mentioned again, because I do conceive there was no foundation for any complaint at all, much less, such aggravated complaints as were. and have several times since been offered upon this subject, which induces me in this place to explain the transaction.

COLONEL *Otway* has since been elected a member of the SOCIETY ; and in the summer of 1768, he did me the favour of looking at this place ; unhappily, I was confined to my bed, and therefore could not attend him ; but I believe, by the inspection he made into the business which is here carried on under the sanction and instructions of the SOCIETY, and the message he was so kind as to leave for me, he apprehends it merits your patronage and support ; and that I the conductor of this business, have not deserved the severity with which I have been treated, in consequence of my clerks refusing his servant taking dimensions of my machines ; and I believe he is perfectly satisfied of the impropriety and unreasonableness of any man's desiring such permission.

CANDOUR

CANDOUR obliges me to say, I have not thus clearly shewn this refusal of admitting Col. *Otway's* servant taking directions, to have been the act of my clerk, with any intention to exculpate myself; for had I been at home, I should not have suffered it, and that more particularly, as the servant brought no letter, and therefore I could have had no assurance of his coming from the gentleman he named, and thus I informed the SOCIETY, the first time Dr. *Loyd* laid this matter before you, as an heinous crime, not to be forgiven; at the same time adding, that if the SOCIETY would make me a proper allowance, I should have no objection to let any man or men in to take dimensions, and receive every other information as to the construction of my machines, which has been given to my own artificers;—but certain it is, I cannot support a parcel of men for this purpose, without publick and ample indemnity.

If Dr. *Loyd*, or any other gentleman, has any charge to make against me, touching my conduct in the discharge of my duty to the SOCIETY and the publick; a consciousness of never ceasing diligence, an untainted integrity, free and open communicativeness, a contempt of expence, and some degree of invention, imboldens me to call for their impeachment before the SOCIETY; provided it be laid with that openness which should accompany all publick enquiries, into the conduct of publick servants: But when injurious representations are made behind a man's back, without giving him an opportunity of defence, it is manifest they are calculated to injure him, and not to discover the *truth*, which is the only end and purpose of all virtuous enquiries, whether of a publick or a private nature.

I COMMENCED these undertakings with a resolution of never giving money to servants; because, I did not intend to build any fame upon their representations, but upon the approbation of their masters; and therefore it will be the less wondered at, that I am not in the good graces of that tribe of gentry: The hateful practice of bribing them, may answer the purposes of pretenders and impostures, but such practices are beneath principles of virtue and honour; and are certainly affrontful (if properly considered) to the judgment and discernment of gentlemen. This conduct,
added

added to a reputation I have acquired in detecting frauds by my book-keeping, and which servants hear of at their masters tables, has raised almost a general *out-cry* against me among that class. I find it has been attended with some few instances of injury to me; but my motive being virtuous, the consequences give me the less concern; for I cannot be persuaded, but that the master, whose judgment can be warped by the base and artful insinuations of ignorant and illiterate servants, (and who have held out flattery to me in every fulsome form to pick my pocket) is not a man for me to spend my time or hold any intercourse with, since such a man cannot be a judge, having no opinion of his own, whether, what I do has merit or not.

BEFORE I quit this department of experimental enquiries, in which I hope I have sufficiently shewn I have been and am acting under the *express directions and instructions of the SOCIETY*; I beg leave for the satisfaction and information of some gentlemen, to say a little respecting the disapprobation which some have expressed at my experimenting upon the drill husbandry at all; but on the contrary, have been of opinion, that I should confine myself alone to the common.

I do not mean here to enter upon any reasoning, respecting the merit or demerit of the two species of culture; but flatter myself I shall fully satisfy such gentlemen, by only submitting to their consideration, a few plain and simple questions.

HAVE we not, from the writings of several ingenious men, since Mr. *Tull's* time, found the drill husbandry much celebrated and approved of?

HAVE not foreigners made an infinity of experiments, comparatively between that and *their* common husbandry, and have they not agreed, that Mr. *Tull's* husbandry has, in those experiments, proved superior to *their* common?

HAVE we had any regular and uniform set of experiments made in the *British* dominions, which have been offered to the publick, calculated to determine accurately how far the
two

two species of culture stand in competition with each other ?

HAS any man, who has offered any system of husbandry, or any detached pieces written from successive experience, informed the publick from actual practice, of the expence attendant on each species of culture, or even that incurred by their experiments ?

Is an enquiry into the merit or demerit of a culture so much celebrated, an object, unworthy of any nation or people ?

DOES not, its author being any *Englishman*, render the enquiry incumbent on the capable people in the *British* Empire, in order to ascertain its merit, when we see her natural enemies so deeply engaged in the enquiry ?

Is it any enquiry unworthy the inhabitants of the kingdom of *Ireland* ?

Is it not an enquiry within the department of the DUBLIN SOCIETY ? Is it not an object, expressly within the true spirit and meaning of their charter ?

IT is plain the SOCIETY thought so.

FOR, did they not, on the 25th of *July* 1765, direct and instruct me, to enter upon a set of experiments, expressly, between the drill and common husbandry ?

I WISH to be informed, what gentlemen imagine the SOCIETY passed this order of instructions for ?

WAS it not to inform themselves and the publick accurately, what might be expected from the drill husbandry ? and how far it can contend, in point of merit, as to real profit, with a judicious practice of the common ?

PERMIT

PERMIT me to ask, if I had disobeyed the order of the SOCIETY, whether I should not have deservedly incurred their severest censure, and that of the publick?

HAD I been incapable, as many thousands are who profess a knowledge sufficient, to pronounce upon the merit of every system, and every scheme of agriculture, to execute this comparative experiment for the SOCIETY, would not the very gentlemen who disapprove of the enquiry, have thought it very extraordinary? Would they not have had sufficient foundation to move the SOCIETY, that I should be dismissed, as a person incapable of executing their instructions?

HAS not the enquiry been made with care, and have not the SOCIETY been informed of the consequences? Are not the publick thereby informed of what they may expect from the drill husbandry? Are they not informed so much is not to be expected, as other writers have taught us to expect?

WHAT more could be expected of me? Am I culpable for the drill husbandry not being equal to all that has been said in its favour? Am I condemnable for relating its just merit?

HAVE I not through every stage of the comparative experiment, stated the expence incurred by each method of culture?

HAS any writer adhered to that, of all others, the most satisfactory rule, as I have done, through every stage of my experiments?

HAVE I not given the produce in actual corn and straw distinctly, from each method of culture, instead of calculating upon sheaves, as hath chiefly been the practice of others? And have I not investigated the quality of the corn, both in grain, quantity, and quality of flour from each culture?

UPON the whole, has not the drill husbandry, in some cases, and for some plants, appeared to be the best culture?

HAVE

HAVE I not, as the experiments have taught me, informed the SOCIETY, how the drill husbandry may be most advantageously used ; I mean as a national object, and as a national practice ? Have I not told them, I do not believe it can answer, as the most profitable husbandry for corn for a long succession of years without intermission ? Have I not told them, that when united with a judicious practice of the common husbandry, more profit will arise from it to landholders, than either culture can afford singly and alone ?

AND upon the whole, gentlemen who are of opinion the common husbandry alone should have been my object, will permit me to ask, whether it has not appeared in the course of my experiments, they having in many cases been comparative, that the common husbandry has shared my attention as well as the drilled ?

IF a very great majority of the SOCIETY were not thoroughly convinced, that the common husbandry has been much improved by my experiments, by my wide and laborious correspondence, and by the infinity of instruments which I have dispersed over the kingdom for that purpose, I should be truly sorry for it — But I dare say, were I put to the necessity of it, I could obtain at least a thousand certificates of the fact.

HAVING gone through the department which relates to the experiments, permit me, for the information of several of your members, who are strangers to it, now to recite how I came to embark under your patronage and encouragement, in the factory for making all kinds of implements for husbandry, as well as to remove some mistaken ideas which some gentlemen of your body are possessed of, which tend to my prejudice, at least in their esteem and representation.

SOON after the commencement of my experiments, many gentlemen and farmers visited me from many parts of the kingdom ; and altho' the experiments were in their infancy ; yet, in the manner of culture, and some other particulars, there appeared in the sentiments of many, a superiority in my machines ; and this idea grew, I hope not unmeritedly in the minds of many : At length, it became a material consideration with gentlemen, what utility could arise

arise to the publick from my experiments, if the instruments I used were not to be had, and which it was not in my power to supply: This was such an argument, as appeared to have great weight; and tho' I could not apprehend it as a conclusive reason why an improvement in tillage should not be attempted; yet, I could not but consider it as a publick misfortune.

THUS, this subject became a matter of frequent discourse when gentlemen visited me; and many applications having been made for the instruments which I could not furnish; it became an indispensable part of my duty to communicate *to some of the members of the SOCIETY*, this publick distress and impediment to the improvement in view; since, if nothing could be done to remove this real publick misfortune, it would not effectually answer the purpose of the SOCIETY to give me their money to make experiments; neither could I upon principles of equity and good conscience continue to take it.

AT length, this subject came under the consideration of the SOCIETY at large; they were pleased to think me the proper person for conducting an undertaking of this kind, because it corresponded so much with the views of the first, and therefore seemed an inseparable consequence.

THE SOCIETY required to know what I apprehended would be sufficient to begin this work; and as my ideas measured the demand, I concluded £300 would be a sufficient sum, at the same time informing them, that if they pleased to intrust that sum to my care, I would embark in the work; and accordingly, the SOCIETY were so kind as to grant me that sum on the 30th of May 1765, to begin this *second* undertaking under their patronage for the service of the publick.

THIS was such an additional earnest of their anxiety to promote agriculture in all its views, and of their approbation of my conduct, that I should have been highly deficient in duty to them, and to my own credit with so respectable a body, had I not exerted my utmost endeavours to answer their expectations.

ACCORDINGLY,

ACCORDINGLY, I immediately set quarry men to work, prepared for burning lime, and with all expedition collected other necessary materials for building a forge, in such a manner, as I conceived would answer for all the business I could ever have to do in it, and furnished it with compleat tools of every kind.

THIS being effected, I collected materials for beginning the factory; and I began the work with one wheeler, one carpenter, one fire-man, and an helper; not in the least conceiving, but that these men would have been able to execute all the demands I could possibly have.

BUT a very short time shewed how much I was mistaken, for I soon had orders, amounting to several hundred pounds value.—This obliged me to think of increasing my number of hands, and which I did continue to increase, until they amounted to fourteen by the spring of 1766.

THIS increase of hands, required a large increase of stock in materials. Here my little capital began to be insufficient, and accordingly, distresses grew every day. Finding myself unequal in point of strength to carry on an undertaking properly, which so much exceeded my expectations in point of demand, and still finding the demand to grow upon me, it was impossible to proceed with that expedition, which the object of a national improvement required.

HENCE I was encouraged, for the first time in my life in the spring of 1766 to trouble the SOCIETY with a memorial in behalf of this undertaking: My indisposition at that time rendered it impossible for me to attend the SOCIETY upon this subject.—However, they were pleased to pass a resolution, allotting £200 to pay me 20 per cent upon the sale of the instruments, to commence from *June* the first 1766.

I CONSIDERED this as generous, both to me and the publick, because from that being the mode of encouraging other manufactures, it was a stronger indication of further encouragement, than had the £200 been immediately ordered;

dered ; but yet, it afforded the work no immediate assistance ; and therefore I was obliged to pursue other means for raising money to enable myself to go on, with any reasonable degree of dispatch.—Having effected that, I immediately laid in more materials, and had the factory in a very flourishing state, tho' my affairs were not a little involved thereby ; my mind distressed with many fears ; and the men, which I had not at this time discovered, imposing upon me in many respects to a great degree, and that more particularly in my forge, where at this time, I had seven smiths employed.

IMMERSED as I was in this manner, I yet did not flag in point of spirit and activity, because I hoped to conquer every difficulty, by shewing my Patrons and the publick, that I was really in earnest, in application at least ; and I hope I have not appeared totally deficient in other respects. Thus I went on, more anxious to establish a reputation than to make money ; because I flattered myself, that reputation being acquired, my services would be considered as entitling me and my family to some provision.

I LITTLE apprehended, that I was thus exerting myself, and straining every *nerve*, in order to pile materials together for the proper execution of this work, and, that the whole was so near another destination ; but as man is a candidate for disapointments and misfortunes which he thinks not of, and as if I had not experienced enough before ; on the 24th of *June* 1766, my factory, materials, many instruments, my dwelling-house, some of my offices, and part of my furniture were consumed by fire.

THIS was a blow indeed ! a blow which immediately determined me to settle my shattered affairs in the best manner I could, and with the remnant which misfortune had left me, retire from all my publick undertakings, since it was impossible for me to proceed with them as I then stood.

IN this hour of adversity, when my self and family were in a moment turned out of doors, an honourable member of your body flew to my assistance, and with a delicacy, which proved him the good man he is, put into my hands a purse of sixty guineas, at the same time, animating

mating me to an exertion of my utmost powers to reinstate the business of this place; and giving me the strongest assurances of his warmest endeavours to do me further service, which he most kindly fulfilled; for, from the same hand I received in all, to the amount of £160 7s. 9d. this extraordinary kindness, added to the sympathy which some other gentleman shewed with me in this calamity, being immediately followed by the unprecedented circumstance of the SOCIETY addressing the publick on my behalf, totally without my knowledge, till I saw it in the publick papers; were events, which would have roused any man of more callous feelings than I am, to exert his utmost powers to reinstate undertakings, which the SOCIETY seemed to have so much at heart; particularly as this address to the publick, was so much of a piece with the repeated and honourable resolutions passed in my favour, and the respectable mention made of my undertakings in their petition of 1765 to parliament; These circumstances I say, being all added together, shewed such an uniform regard from the SOCIETY towards my undertakings, and such an anxiety for their re-establishment, that I must have been something below a man, dead to the feelings and sensibility incident to human nature, had I not been animated to strain every string, and try every channel of credit to answer, not the expectations, but the wishes of the SOCIETY.

HENCE I considered it my duty to exert my utmost abilities; I tried my friends, and found means to involve myself £700 in debt liable to interest, abstracted from some other smaller sums for materials: thus, these undertakings were revived and carried on, under difficulties and distresses of a *serious nature*; and which I was prompted to for the reasons already mentioned; as I could not, from the then appearance of my connections with the SOCIETY, form the least expectations of disapprobation in them, much less of an abridgment, or hazard of abridgment, of my annual allowance for my trouble and expence, in carrying on the experiments expressly under their directions, as hath been already shewn.

AFTER mentioning that I had borrowed such a sum of money, to enable myself to execute, what appeared to be
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so much the unanimous wishes of my Patrons, I should be wanting in gratitude, if I did not declare that I am obliged to one of your members for the loan of £500, to another for his name together with that of his brother; obligations I never can repay, but by the grateful sense I shall ever retain of them.

AT the time this misfortune happened, I have already shewn, that I had fourteen artificers employed in my factory; whom I collected, imported, and had in part instructed, in the construction of many of my instruments: Upon the fire I intended to dismiss all these men, and to give up the further prosecution of these undertakings; but when Gentlemen of rank and fortune, appeared so warmly to share with me in my calamity, and that I saw the address of the DUBLIN SOCIETY to the publick on my behalf, I have already shewn, that I could do no less, than use my best endeavours to reinstate my undertakings.

DURING the interruption of business, I submit to the consideration of gentlemen, what I could do with these fourteen men and their families? Their daily bread depended upon their labour: And as I had now determined to keep them, could I do less than pay them? Had I suffered them to disperse; how hard it would have been to recover them will be easily conceived: This circumstance alone took eight pounds a week from me, until I could set the business going again, which was a dead loss of so much.

WHEN I published my first list of instruments on a broad-side, and sent a parcel of them in, to the SOCIETY; gentlemen cannot but remember, how much I was pressed and desired by the SOCIETY, in my next list to publish the prices: having ever been solicitously anxious to know how I could most *fully* oblige and gratify, the wishes of the SOCIETY, I was determined to comply with their request the first opportunity; and accordingly, in the year 1766, I published a new list of my instruments, in the form of a pamphlet, and to them added the prices.

AT the time of doing this, I was not quite ripe for it, because I had not been long enough in the practice of a mechanick, to ascertain the expence with that accuracy upon every

every machine, which I ought for my own sake to have known.

BUT when I considered that I was acting under generous and liberal masters, who had shewn me so many singular marks of their favour and approbation, and that in the following *June*, was to commence a bounty of 20 per cent. upon the sale of these instruments, as an inducement for me to publish the prices low, for the service and encouragement of the publick, to improve their tillage by the use of them; how could I do less than comply with the request of the SOCIETY, when surely 20 per cent. was a sufficient profit.

It is true, the bounty was limited to £ 200, but I could not apprehend, that when all circumstances should be considered, but that it would have been continued for another year or two at least, to an undertaking so new in itself, so important to the most interesting object of the nation; of which the SOCIETY was the parent, and which had sustained such a misfortune, and had been re-established under such difficulties, and which bounty might then have been gradually diminished.

BUT when I made the last return to the SOCIETY in claim of this bounty, on the 28th. of *January* 1768, which finished the £ 200 allotted; the bounty was at once reduced, from 20 to 5 per cent. Had gentlemen maturely considered all circumstances; and not have entered upon and determined a question of so much consequence instantly; I am persuaded this fatal blow, to this undertaking had not happened.

SURELY, it cannot be urged that I did not execute the business, and that the expectations of the SOCIETY were not more than answered; for, it appears by the returns, that from the 21st. of *November* 1766, to the 28th. of *January* 1768, I sold and dispersed over this kingdom £ 1000 of instruments for husbandry; a circumstance, which I believe not any man living can speak of, in the whole course of his life: and what is still more satisfactory, they have answered their purposes, without complaint.—This, surely has been answering the views of the SOCIETY.

PERMIT

PERMIT me, without any intention of offence, to submit to the consideration of the SOCIETY, what is my case under these circumstances: *In express obedience to the request of the SOCIETY*, I published a second list of my instruments with their prices annexed; in common decency, in support of that credit which I wish to support, and for their honour, I published the prices as near as I could at prime cost. Why? because my kind masters gave me 20 per cent. upon the sale; but now, for almost two years, that bounty has been reduced to 5 per Cent.

ALLOW me to appeal to your justice, your candour, your honour; whether my case is not hard as to this particular? allow me to pray you will consider all circumstances, and I am sure you will reply in the affirmative. Did not my loss by the fire, my adventurous endeavours to revive this *consumed* undertaking, the involving myself in debt for that purpose, and the consideration of the demand, demonstrably proving its utility to the publick, intitle me to some favour and consideration, when I had thus exerted myself in your service?

DOES it not appear from your resolutions in my favour, your petitions to parliament, your addressing the publick in my behalf, your voting me this limited bounty, that if I executed what you expected; that I had every inducement to rely upon your further bounty in this department? Or, why should I have involved myself in debt? or why should I have tied myself down to a stipulated price for the instruments? Surely, for no other reason, than the *faith* I had so many and repeated reasons to have in the SOCIETY.

If it shall be urged, that it was my own fault to put the prices of the instruments too low; I beg leave to reply, that it was my misfortune, my integrity, my wishes to further the designs of the SOCIETY; not my fault.

If it shall be urged, that with the £ 200 bounty, and £ 300 first given, I have had £ 500 for this department: I submit to gentlemen, whether for £ 500, it can be expected, I am to spend my life in a business of so much hazard, attention, labour and expence without any other profit, (even suppose) that had been *whole* to me? Besides which, I lost

more than that sum by the fire which came upon me by *this* undertaking. It involved me more than that sum in debt, to which my person and property are liable; altho' I cannot help considering, upon principles of equity and good conscience, that it is a debt of honour upon the publick. And I submit to gentlemen, whether my being tied down to a price, and every material advanced upon me, does not render my case still harder in this department?

I PUBLISHED the prices as near prime cost as I could, merely upon the faith I had in the SOCIETY; because I always considered that *they* were the persons supplying the publick with instruments; and really paying me for my trouble and attention in improving and inventing such as I should find most useful. But the reducing of the 20 per cent. to five, convinced me, the majority of the board who passed that resolution were pleased to think otherwise; which one might imagine *cancelled* my obligation as to the stipulated price; and yet, had I advertised in the publick papers, that from that time I should raise the price 15 per cent, which was the reduction upon the bounty, it would I presume have been looked upon by many as an extraordinary measure; and yet, were I to continue this undertaking upon the present ground I stand, without assistance, I should be obliged to raise the price at least 20 per cent. but that is a step I shall not take, for I cannot think of remaining an executing mechanick to make my reward by the publick at large. It should seem, some gentlemen think that perhaps the public are sufficiently supplied with my models; and therefore, further encouragement is not necessary to me: very generous reflection! but I am satisfied to give up, if that shall be the will and pleasure of the SOCIETY; what, I am sure from experience is not worth my following upon the present terms, as I shall presently most clearly shew.

I HAVE frequently heard it has been urged, that from the great sale of the goods manufactured, large sums must have fallen into my hands: the consequence to be inferred from such argument must be, that further encouragement is not necessary to me in this or any other part of my undertakings (for this has been urged upon the annual question, as to my being paid for the experiments.) Surely gentlemen can't imagine or expect,

expect, that I should pursue these undertakings at my own expence, or solely at my own hazard, for the service of the publick ; no, not a day longer than I shall be paid for my trouble, neither can any reasonable man expect it ; and I am sure a majority of the DUBLIN SOCIETY will not desire it.

As to the sale of the instruments, I humbly apprehend a greater proof cannot be brought of the merit and importance of these undertakings ; for, by the sale of the goods, the distress of the kingdom for good instruments plainly appears ; at the same time, that it also proves, that wherever the instruments are sold, my experiments must have given information, and my practices in agriculture must have carried conviction ; whereas, had I sold none, or only a few, or even had I not made them at all ; what arguments might not then have been urged against me and my undertakings ? On the contrary, I have executed what and much more than I proposed ; in that execution I have expended, and by misfortune in the work lost the publick money given to me ; and have neither spent it or sunk it in my pocket.

To urge the sale as a reason against any man's being supported and encouraged to proceed with undertakings, which he has shewn himself capable of, and of which the publick have availed themselves, by his diligent and faithful execution ; is so repugnant to all fair argument, so contrary to equitable reasoning, that one would imagine it would puzzle the ablest logician to support it.

BUT I beg leave to submit to gentlemen ; that suppose I had again an independent fortune to support these undertakings, *and were* to exercise that application which I have employed in your service, confessedly to the publick benefit ; it does not seem to follow, that for publick services, I should not meet with publick reward, (if I chose to accept it) so long as I should continue to contribute my mite to the publick stock.

THIS argument doubtless, has been urged upon a presumption, that I have been a great gainer by this demand for the instruments : alas, how we measure the affairs of other men by our own feelings and knowledge of things ! a plough, by a man who knows not the use, and merit of it,

is looked upon to be a coarse, unweildy, simple, unfinished machine, which every bungling hatchet man is capable of executing. On the contrary, even a plough is a work of much artful construction and considerable difficulty : it requires strength without lumber, neatness without the affectation of delicacy, its several, even the minutest parts must be finished with accuracy, and joined together with perfect symmetry and exactness. Not knowing the nature of such works, gentlemen may imagine, that I have made large profits. But if they will be so good as to reflect, how many hands must be employed in this kind of manufacture, what a quantity of materials must be consumed, how much time must be bestowed in appointing, the instructing, the overseeing of the several artificers, and how very small, considering all these things, is the sum total returned, (altho' large in its object of supplying this kingdom with models of husbandry implements) I cannot but believe, that had I made in profit a third of the sum total of the sale, there are more persons, who would have thought it reasonable, than there are, who would have thought it otherwise.

HOWEVER, for the satisfaction of gentlemen, I shall beg leave to shew that I have been *reasonable*, to my misfortune, *very reasonable* ; because I expected such reward as I should have been satisfied with, from another source ; and not by being either a wheeler, carpenter or smith to the publick, all I meant to do, was to direct such people to do what I should think, and find necessary to be done, for the honour of the SOCIETY, and service of the publick.

FOR, I believe it is pretty generally known that I was not bred a mechanick : it is not to be presumed then, that I could be a competent judge of what a mechanick I hire ought to do ; and surely it will be admitted that a workman (be he ever so diligent) cannot do so much in a new branch of business, or in making a new machine, as in the work he has been used to : have not gentlemen themselves experienced this ? when they may have been very good judges, whether the work was done properly or to their mind, and yet could not tell whether the workman had done as much as he ought. It cannot be supposed, that I could constantly attend my workmen, when I have had variety of other things to employ me ; an infinity of writing, frequent and daily visitors
to

to attend. Will it not be allowed that all these circumstances must have led me into great expences, and exposed me to frauds of various kinds?

WILL not the class of people, being added to the above circumstances account a little for my not making profit, on the contrary for my sustaining losses? they have no sense of virtue, and consequently no integrity, no influence upon their minds to prevent their practising every villainy upon their employers, except the little dread they have of the laws.

Is it not known to be an established principle amongst tradesmen as all these fellows call themselves; to destroy every man they can, who embarks in any business, to which they have not been bred?

Is it not universally known, that this class of people will steal every material they can, where they are employed? Don't gentlemen find it every day, in their lead, iron, and timber? Why should I be imagined to fare better than other people? and that particularly with such a tribe of smiths; who, of all others, are the most finished villains I ever had to deal with; and many of the carpenters not inferior to them in accumulated wickedness. My smiths have destroyed my iron, steel, and coals, to such a degree, that has been astonishing. I have missed eleven hundred weight of iron at a time, and yet, could fix but sixteen pounds upon a man. And many shameful depredations have been made upon my timber in scantling, in various ways.

WILL it not be considered, how infinitely I must be exposed to various frauds, from the incommodiousness of the place for such an undertaking? how much more then must that have been the case, after the fire, every gentleman's discernment will discover.

WILL gentlemen please to consider, how much I must have suffered in expence, whilst the men in each department have been learning; and how frequently that loss must have been repeated; (and the expence often ineffectually incurred, when I have met with a bungling blockhead) when some of those men I have dismissed for improper conduct; others, have

have run away, some from being in my debt, and others from expecting punishment for greater crimes; as also, when they have been tempted away.

THESE various circumstances will surely inform gentlemen how impossible it was for me to be otherwise than a loser—again consider, when in so new an undertaking, I must necessarily have lost a great deal of the mens time, their wages still going on, many machines altered, amended, spoiled, knocked to pieces, and thrown aside as imperfect; thus was incurred a great loss of mens hire and materials.

THESE considerations I am sure the SOCIETY will admit as very weighty; I could name several others, which might very properly come into the account, why I cannot be a gainer.

BUT, that gentlemen may really see, I have conducted this work without profit, I shall state the account as it stood upon the close for the two past years.

Dr.

Dr. Factory as it stood, December 31st. 1767.

1767.

Dec. 31st. To materials of every kind,
work-mens wages, and other in-
cidental charges from the begin-
ning - - -

l. s. d.

1255 12 10½

Per Contra.

Cr.

l. s. d.

1767.
Dec. 31st. By account of sales, and
by credit for all ma-
chines, and repairs of
machines for my own
use since the beginning
By Stock in hand

1009 9 7½
233 1 5½
1242 11 1

By account of profit and loss, being
lost upon this account

13 1 9½
1255 12 10½

(55)

1768.

Jan. 1st. To Stock of 1767 -
To loss upon the close of last year
Dec. 31st. To materials and wages this year

1255 12 10½
233 1 5½
13 1 9½
557 8 0
803 11 3

To Account of profit and loss
by gain this year - -

- 15 5 3½
818 10 6¼

1768.
Dec. 31st. By sales this year, and ma-
chines and repairs for my own use
By stock in hand

648 4 1½
170 12 4¼
818 16 6¼

818 16 6¼

THUS

THUS I have candidly informed gentlemen how this account stood on the last day of *December* 1767, and the last day of *December* 1768. I would do so even to this day, but that it would be attended with interruption and inconvenience to accomplish; because, to do it accurately, stock must be taken, and every merchant and trader knows that to be a troublesome business, where an infinity of small articles are the stock; besides which, I have been so much engaged this year by corresponding with, and other calls of the publick, that my books are some months behind in postage.

HERE gentlemen see, that upon the sale of £1657. 13s. 9d worth of instruments, it appears upon the face of the account, that I had made £15. 5s. 3¼ by this factory on the 31st of *December* 1768, which is not one per cent.

I SUBMIT it to my *much honoured Patrons*, whether I could give a greater proof of my anxiety to answer their expectations in my service under them for the publick benefit, than limiting myself to such a profit as this? And I hope I may add without offence, it is a confirmation of my dependance upon their protection? How that dependance has been excited I have already shewn.

IT perhaps may be urged, that in these accounts, I have not given credit for the £300 which the SOCIETY first gave me, and the £200 bounty.

I SHALL do that with pleasure; because, by doing that, it gives me an opportunity of demonstrably proving that I really am a very considerable loser by this undertaking. To make the matter more intelligible, I shall state the account together, under the title of a *general account*.

BUT first, I shall be permitted to urge by way of explanation, that as this grant and bounty, arose from incidents which do not happen in a course of trade; every merchant and book-keeper knows, that they should go immediately to the *credit* of profit and loss. My fire was an incident arising also from accident, and therefore the injury sustained, goes to the *debit* of profit

profit and loss.—Bad debts go also to the *debit* of the same account. All bad debts in my books, arising from my artificers running, or being inticed away; arise also in consequence of the factory, as do all debts for implements, not recoverable. These are all incidents equally uncertain with the above sums, and therefore upon a fair account to ascertain the loss or gain immediately arising upon any particular branch of trade, these sort of incidents are not to be charged upon the trade itself, but to the *debit* of profit and loss.—This idea, founded in truth and justice to the trade, therefore renders a distinct account, under the title of *profit and loss*, necessary, which shews a man's loss or gain upon his general affairs at the end of every year.—For he may appear to have gained £1000 upon one particular branch of business in the year, and yet he may appear, upon his account of profit and loss, to have lost double that sum; and so vice versa.

SOME gentlemen have laid great stress upon these two sums; and have (as I am informed) thought they *ought by* right to go to the *credit* of the factory. From the nature of my occupation I am inured to the informing every man in his own way, and therefore I will allow *this credit*; but then I hope, they will please equally to think, the other incidental articles *ought by* right to go to the *debit*.—Presuming this granted, because it surely is reasonable, I shall begin, by stating the general account.

Dr. The Factory, from the commencement, to the
31st of *Deecember*, 1768,—as extracted from the
several accounts.

Paid for materials.

To bar iron and steel, - -	340	10	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
To coals for the forges, - -	50	17	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
To timber, - - -	264	11	8
To nails - - -	21	10	4
To repairing of files, - - -	5	4	9
To oil for the vice work, - -	2	3	4
To borax, - - -	0	12	0
To leather, hair, wool, &c. -	109	0	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
To tin work, - - -	1	13	7
To brass work, - - -	12	14	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
To paint and oil, - - -	26	15	2
To linen, - - -	1	12	3
To glass, - - -	0	9	6
To ropes - - -	1	14	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
To fuggons, - - -	1	0	0
To cast iron, - - -	34	1	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
To glew, - - -	0	11	0
To candles, - - -	5	11	8
To chalk, - - -	0	4	4
To sand, - - -	0	1	6
To tools of various kinds, -	71	7	5

£952 8 10

To incidental charges.

To labourers and hired horses for drawing timber, iron, packing and carrying goods, &c. - - -	43	19	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
To labour of my own horses, do. - - -	14	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
To petty expences in turn- pikes, &c. - - -	8	4	3
To a clerk's salary three years,	60	0	0
To printing, - - -	29	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$

£155 18 2 $\frac{3}{4}$

£1108 7 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Paid

Paid, and in advance to the following artificers who
have been employed to *December 31. 1768.*

Number of artificers.

Brought over,			1108	7	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
1	To Laurence Brien, - -	113	16	7	
1	To John Brien, - -	0	13	4	
1	To Thomas Boudler - -	154	1	11	
1	To Edward Buri, - -	1	6	6	
1	To Philip Burk, - -	26	19	9	
3	To Tho. Connel and two sons,	24	15	11	
1	To James Doran, - -	25	3	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To Michael Dunn, a smith	11	2	0	
3	To Michael Dunn, and his two apprentices, - - - -	60	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To Timothy Dunn, - -	7	15	6	
1	To James Doyle, - - -	4	12	7	
1	To Edward Chandler, - -	9	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To William Elliot, - -	16	19	0	
2	To William Holmes, and his apprentice, - - - -	6	0	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To Edmond Kirk, - -	38	5	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	
1	To James Kelly, - -	34	15	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	
1	To John Little, - - -	69	15	3	
1	To John Little, junior, -	9	9	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	
1	To Patrick Mannaman, -	0	10	7	
1	To Patrick Murry, - -	29	8	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
2	To James M ^c Manus, and co.	21	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To Walter Millerd, - -	59	5	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	
1	To Thomas Owens, - -	21	19	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
2	To John Smith, and brother,	8	18	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
1	To James Talbot, - -	27	2	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
2	To James Tyrrel, and co.	35	6	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	
2	To Tho. Ward, and son,	58	8	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
2	To Patrick Kenna, and Wil- liam Barber, - - -	3	0	4	
2	To Patrick Hooks and co. -	4	3	9	
2	To John Byrn and co. - -	4	11	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To Thomas Chaddock, - -	1	8	7	
1	To John Foley, - - - -	0	16	6	
1	To James Fitzgerald, - -	0	12	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
2	To John Holliwell, and son,	0	2	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To John Hibard, - - -	13	11	5	
1	To William Little, - -	1	15	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1	To William Lary, - - -	5	7	5	
1	To Michael Sweney, - -	2	10	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Dr. The general account of my second undertaking, namely the Factory under the *patronage* and *encouragement* of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, with the attendant consequences, to *December 31, 1768.*

l. s. d.

To materials from the commencement to the 31 <i>December</i> , 1768, as already stated, - - - - -	952 8 10
To incidental charges, as already stated, - - - do. do.	155 18 2 $\frac{3}{4}$
To artificers, do. do.	
as already stated, and in which is included £121 7s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ which I had advanced to some of these men, who have some run, and others been inticed away, and a pretty large sum in advance to those yet with me, which is precarious. - - -	915 6 8

1768.

Dec. 31. To interest of money for three years and discounts, - - - - -	156 5 0
To outstanding debts for instruments, ordered to be sent to town, not yet paid for, nor I believe never will, and calling for which has raised me some enemies; and the amount of which I have a just right to debit in this account, as the factory formerly had credit for them, - - - - -	57 7 4
To new buildings for this factory, and were it properly conducted, I ought to lay out £300 more for buildings, - - -	80 0 0
To plows given away, to poor occupiers of land, who wished to have but could not afford to purchase them, and for which the factory got credit to the debit of profit and loss, - - - - -	7 10 0

Carried over, £2324 16 0 $\frac{3}{4}$

To

*Per Contra**Cr.*

By account of sales since the commencement to the 31st of *December*, 1768, - - - - -

1657 13 9

By stock remaining in hand, do.

170 12 4½

£1828 6 1½

By a grant from the DUBLIN SOCIETY to begin the said factory,

300 0 0

By a bounty from the DUBLIN SOCIETY upon the sale of £1000 worth of instruments, at 20 per cent, - - - - -

200 0 0

By a bounty from the DUBLIN SOCIETY, upon the sale of £501 worth of instruments, at 5 per cent. - - - - -

25 1 0

Carried over

£2353 7 1½

Brought over - - - - - £2324 16 0 $\frac{3}{4}$

To instruments gratis, sent to a neighbouring kingdom for the credit and honour of my Patrons, for which the factory likewise got credit to the debit of profit and loss, - 4 11 0

1766.
June 24. To an immediate loss sustained by an accidental fire, which happened in and by this undertaking, from the carelessness of one *James Doran*, a smith employed, £500, tho' in its consequences, I believe, at least as much more, - - - - - 500 0 0

£2829 7 0 $\frac{3}{4}$

Per

*Per Contra**Cr.*

Brought over,	2353	7	1½
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By the bounty of the publick, upon my unhappy fire, the particulars of which appear hereafter, - -	209	18	0
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	<u>2563</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1½</u>
By loss upon this general account,	266	1	11

	<u>2829</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0½</u>
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THUS

THUS gentlemen see, that I am really and truly a loser by this undertaking the full sum of £266 1s. 11d. after giving credit for the sums advanced by the SOCIETY, and that of the publick upon the fire: And I believe there is not an article of charge on the debit side, which can be objected to, in stating such an account as this.

WOULD any gentlemen think, that if I had made 15 per cent upon this factory, upon the goods sold to *Christmas* 178; it would have been more than such a profit as my labour, hazard, and invention amply entitled me to? I am persuaded every man will admit I ought to have made at least that much.—Suppose then, I had acquired what I ought to have had; my profit in that case upon the sale of £1657 13s. 9d. up to *Christmas* last, would have amounted to £191 2s. 6d.—No gentleman will think I believe, that for such a work as I have gone through, to execute and disperse over a kingdom, so many instruments as amount to the sum ascertained, £1657, that the sum of £191 2s. 6d. would have been an adequate recompence: But instead of that, it appears I made £15 5s. 3¼, upon the *immediate account of loss and gain*, contingent losses not being considered.—I cannot be persuaded, but gentlemen who have conceived other ideas, will join in saying my case is hard; and that I have done too much; or rather, that I am not paid for what I have done.

As I believe every gentleman will consider, that had I made this profit, it would have been little enough, upon the regular way of keeping the account of loss and gain upon any commodity or manufacture; let us then, as I have not made this sum, deduct the difference between that, and what it appears I have made, from the sum which I appear to have lost upon the general account of embarking in the undertaking at all. Deducting the £15 5s. 3¼ out of the £191 2s. 6d. and there remains a manifest deficiency in profit of £175 17s. 2¾—Now suppose this really and actually had been made; let us deduct it out of the actual loss of £266 1s. 11d. and even in that case I should have been a loser £90 4s. 8¼.—Even this would have been hard.

BUT

BUT now let us examine the case as it really is, that I have actually lost £266 1 11, by accidental incidents, *over and above* the whole bounty of the SOCIETY, and the publick; and am deficient in a reasonable profit £175 17s. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Now, if it will be admitted as fair reasoning (as I believe it is) that a man not getting what his labour intitles him to, is a real loss to him of so much; in that case, I have a very good right to add this sum deficient in profit to the sum actually lost by me singly and alone; and then my loss will appear to have amounted at *Christmas* last, to £441 19s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$.

BUT to investigate this matter a little further, I think it will be no difficult matter to prove by the fairest reasoning, that I have actually, by the undertaking this factory, or, I should *rather* say, by the unfavourable events which attended it, lost more than double the above sum.

FOR, the grant and bounties of the SOCIETY for this work, were not given me with an intention or expectation of my losing them, but as an encouragement for me to proceed with this undertaking: I was in the actual possession of those sums: The misfortune of the fire gave me the bounty of the publick, £209. 18s. that has a right to be deducted, because I should not have had it, had there been no fire;—and therefore, that sum, was so far an healing of my several losses; and leaves our debit in loss, in the actual, and formidable sum of £791 2s. 11d. for the £525 1s. general bounty of the SOCIETY upon this undertaking, added to the £266. 1s. 11d. make the sum of £791 2s. 11d. to which, I may justly add the deficiency in profit, of £175 17s. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$, which makes my circumstances, not by beginning the factory, but in its consequences, £967 0s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inferior to what they would have been, had not the consequences happened, which did: a circumstance, which I should not have to relate, had I acted, as many others do who come before you, with more attention to my own interest, and less to the views of the SOCIETY.

I HOPE gentlemen will not consider this reasoning as sophistical, but fair and clear; for certain it is, that when a man has a sum of money ready to execute any piece of

work, and that by fire, or any other accident, he loses that, and more by the same means; the whole sum is a loss to him of so much: This is my case; I am deficient in circumstances, it appears, by the unfortunate consequences of this undertaking £967 *os.* 1½, and have been obliged to raise money upon interest, to enable myself to proceed with the very undertaking by which I suffered; because I saw, at least I thought I saw, my Patrons wished to have it re-established.

I BEG leave, under these circumstances, to submit to the consideration of my *much honoured Patrons!* in their united capacity, and to the breast of every member individually, what spirit or inducement I can have to proceed with an undertaking; which, in its consequences, has been so injurious to me? What spirit can I have to be struggling with it, as I have been ever since the fire, with a load of debt upon me, which it is demonstrable, it can never clear off? Nothing, but from an enthusiasm to shew the SOCIETY that I am willing, and I hope able to serve the cause I am engaged in. Many gentlemen of the SOCIETY are in employments; others have been, and are in business: Is there one who would pursue either, under the circumstances that I am pursuing this? But flattering hope, that seducer, that betrayer, that leader of man, has led me on from time to time, in expectations of a change of measures, and of some means of relief.—That is not yet arrived.

MY *sincerely regarded Patrons!*—The hazard, expence, labour, my inability to pursue, and unprofitableness of this undertaking; added to the *precarious situation*, in which I have already shewn I stand, respecting my being paid for the experiments; lead me to a point, which *grieves* me to mention; but when the basis of a superstructure fails, the edifice must fall!—Pardon me, I cannot longer pursue these undertakings, upon these terms.—Never ceasing application, *without emolument*; embarrassed affairs, *without relief*; faithful execution, *under obloquy*; and perseverance, *without certainty*; are circumstances, *all conspiring to a man's undoing*; which (when I look at my family) hurt my mind, and have impaired my health, which is of more consequence to them, than any other object upon earth.

BUT

BUT had I a fortune to pursue these undertakings, in the manner which I am sure I could now pursue them for the publick benefit ; my passion for the occupation I am in, would lead me to it ; because, I am sure I could make agriculture flourish ; but that necessary, which is the life, and spring, of every publick business, is wanting ; and I must with retirement, court contentment ; because I *dare not*, I *must not*, run any further hazard: Tho' candour obliges me to admit, that from the experience I now have, and the perfectness of my men in the work, I am not losing as I have done.

GENTLEMEN who wish well to their country, who are sensible that agriculture, and the general improvement of her lands ; is the *basis*, the *primum*, and the *life* of her internal, and natural interest ; as the proper and unimpeded use of the lungs are to the life and health of an animal : I say, such gentlemen will permit me to beg they will turn back to the general account just stated, and consider ; whether I have not been a useful member of the community, in having consumed near £1000 worth of materials, and in having paid £1071 for gathering and working those materials ; not into flying phaetons, or any other expensive trifles ; but into *instruments of husbandry*, for the improvement of *your lands*. I appeal, *my much honoured Patrons*, to your expectations, when I embarked in this work, whether you imagined or expected, I could have done so much as this by *Christmas 1768* ?

BEFORE I quit this department, I shall beg leave to reply for the information of gentlemen, to some reflections which I have heard of ; and to propose a few questions, for the better information of the SOCIETY, and the publick.

IT has been said, “ that the SOCIETY gave me 20 per cent for making “ *caps and whips*.”

THE gentleman who urged this as a negative reason against my being paid for the experiments, which you *directed* me to make ; I am persuaded, from his amiable good character, that he thought so, or he would not have said it : But I hope he will pardon my assuring him that he is mistaken ; and if he will please to look over the returns I have

made to the SOCIETY in claim of that bounty ; he will find there is no such thing mentioned ; nor any other article, which does not immediately relate to husbandry : but had I been able to get the whips made, which are mentioned in my last list, at the time of making those returns, and that I had sold any of them, I certainly should have put them in my returns ; because they are the compleat, and proper instruments for driving horses in every department of husbandry, and I believe, could not then be got in this kingdom.

BUT as to caps, saddles, &c. out of the immediate department of husbandry ; I was obliged to introduce them in my list for two reasons : One was, that I feared I could not have business enough to employ an hand in the department of husbandry harness : Another was, that the man I have would not engage with me, if I would not have consented to it ; he urging, that he should suffer in his hand as a workman by deserting that branch ; and as I found by his abilities, that he was really an acquisition to the kingdom in the article of harness, I was willing to gratify him in this particular ; not caring a penny myself, whether any thing that did not tend to my immediate object, *agriculture*, was ever called for, so that I could keep the man employed. I now find the demand more than he can execute, and therefore nothing is ever done out of the department which is my object, except to oblige a neighbour, or for my own immediate use.

It has been urged by another, as derogatory to this undertaking, that “ better instruments are made in the North than mine.”—This seems to be very extraordinary ; because I have sent into the North I believe, near as many instruments, as to all the kingdom besides ; so that the gentleman who asserted this as a matter of fact, must be much mistaken.—He will permit me to ask him whether he has seen *all* the instruments I make ? Or has he *compared* them with those he means ? And if he has, is he a *competent judge* of their *uses*, and *comparative merit* ?

He will allow me to enquire where they are made in the North ? And by whom ?—I am sure it is the gentleman's duty to inform the SOCIETY, and the publick of this particular.—In the mean time, until he does that, and can prove
h is

his North-country machines to be better, or even equal to mine in any competition; he must forgive my saying, no one man in the kingdom, can either know how to make as good machines, much less better; neither is there any man in the dominions knows the use of all my machines, because no one man has seen them all: And the gentleman may imagine as he pleases; but let my factory dissolve as soon as it may; after that, no one man in the kingdom can get them executed.

It has been said by another, that “ I charge 30 per cent dearer for my implements, than they can be bought for elsewhere.”

I HAVE before, and do again repeat my request, that he will inform the SOCIETY and the publick, how he came to ascertain that I fixed a price thirty per cent too high upon them?

I BEG he will inform the SOCIETY, and the publick, who makes them 30 per cent cheaper?

LET him inform them if he can, where they are to be had, even, at any price, of equal quality?—Where they are to be had even in the dominions, and then send for them, and let them be compared with mine in finishing, strength, and execution in the field: no, he may seek, hunt, and send till he is tired, as I have done; and they will not know what he means.—This gentleman, does not know what the kingdom is in possession of, in the machines I have made, and can make.

PERHAPS these gentlemen may attempt to produce such another person, as the one who produced an instrument before the SOCIETY once before, praying encouragement, for attempting to make something in imitation of mine.—I hope if that shall be case, care will be taken, that he does not perjure himself, as that unhappy man did.

I SHALL now beg leave, without intention of offending any individual, because I will not name or describe any man; but merely with an hope of accounting a little, for some unkind

kind representations which have been propagated respecting this department, endeavour to shew some of the causes.

SOME persons who do not *know* me, have applied for instruments in a wonderful high tone, as if I really were a country hatchet-man ; either totally forgetting, or not knowing my department or character ; and peremptorily must have them by a stipulated time. As being the fair and candid way, I have, *fairly, and candidly*, told them it was impossible ; for that other gentlemen had applied before ; and must, according to the rule I had established, be supplied first.—This has been considered as an heinous offence.

OTHERS have, from causes of this nature, countermanded their commissions ; and have applied to their neighbours for permission, and some have sent their workmen, even without asking that permission, to take dimensions of some of my machines, which has been frequently refused by gentlemen, by referring them to me ; but to have applied to me again could not be reconciled.

SOME few others have desired me to send machines to town with a bill of the amount ; but the messenger returning without the money, has obliged me to apply by letter afterwards.—After twelve, and eighteen months ; I have sometimes got the money : and some few others yet remain unpaid from one to three years : To apply has been considered as an affront ; tho' I have expressly published that I cannot give credit : From some instances of this kind, I have been very improperly treated, and threatened with publick censure.

CAN it be wondered at then, that mis-representations have been made, perhaps in private companies, in order to have them repeated in publick assemblies.

FOR my part, I cannot but consider that men, who, from private pique (at having their pride, their imposition, or unreasonable expectations a little checked) will strike at another in publick employment, or at any work of publick utility, by private insinuations, or mis-representations ; are such, as no well meaning man will choose to have any sort of dealings with ; and therefore, I have sometimes
offended

offended people of this kind ; because, if I can help it, I never will have any second connection with men, whom I have once experienced, not to be, as men ought to be ; reasonable, decent, and fair.

IF any one feels this manner of writing to touch him ; and that he thinks himself injured thereby ; I have no objection to a *fair, candid, and open* investigation, in any manner that he pleases ; for I do not fear truth.

AFTER expressing myself in this manner, I should be wanting in sensibility and regard to the infinite majority of the gentlemen who have applied to me for instruments, if I omitted to make my most grateful acknowledgments, for their ready, and speedy payment.

I HAVE for the present, done with this department ; and shall, for the information of such gentlemen as do not know it ; beg leave to enter upon a third in which I am engaged, expressly at the *instance, and particular request* of the SOCIETY.

EARLY in the summer of 1765, it was mentioned in the SOCIETY, as an object of great consequence to the improvement of agriculture, the putting out apprentices to learn the practical knowledge of husbandry.

GENTLEMEN were so struck with the idea, that many spoke to it, and every one seemed to feel it so strongly, that I remember (for I happened to be present) several rising at a time to offer their sentiments ; inasmuch, that if politeness had not produced order, it would have been hard for the chair to determine it.

AT length, I had the honour to be called upon for my sentiments ; the subject came upon me by surprize, and therefore I could not say any thing but what arose from recent ideas :—However, the gentlemen then present were pleased to think the little I did say worthy their notice ; and accordingly, it became an immediate resolution of the SOCIETY, to request, that I would commit my thoughts to paper against the following *Tuesday*.

SHORT as the time was, I did so, and attended the next meeting with my little manuscript, which was read in the SOCIETY at large; and they were pleased to refer it to a committee, to think of the best and most effectual method of establishing this, their new object; and I was desired to attend the said committee, from day to day.

I SOON found, that the sentiments of the gentlemen who attended that committee, led them to think of my engaging in this undertaking. I knowing my own feelings better than any other man can possibly know them, and the incommodioufness of my house for making any addition to my family, already very large; found myself obliged to lay before them, the many impediments to my engaging in such an undertaking: After which, gentlemen cannot but remember the manner in which the matter was put to me; *to oblige* (as it was expressed) the SOCIETY, I could not but acquiesce; particularly as it seemed to be the intention, annually to enlarge the number, and that I should be enabled to erect a proper building for their residence; and from the number, that I should be enabled to keep proper people to attend their little domestick concerns, immediately under my own inspection.

I APPEAL to gentlemen, whether I did not absolutely refuse the taking a sum of money with the boys as an apprentice fee? But rather chose that an annual allowance should be stipulated for their maintenance and cloathing; *in order, that in case* any, or all of them should turn out improper objects of such publick favour, or improbable persons to answer the wise and useful intentions of the SOCIETY; that I might at any time get rid of them, and have them replaced by others; but when I attempted that, I found it very difficult.

I WAS desired by gentlemen, to consider what would be a proper sum for the SOCIETY to allow; and accordingly, I named £12 per annum for each boy, which gentlemen seemed to think very reasonable; and accordingly, the matter was concluded, and I took five apprentices, out of the Workhouse of *Dublin*.

It cannot be conceived, that I would have saddled myself, and incommoded my family with five unruly boys upon such,
or

or any other terms, had it not been to oblige the SOCIETY; or, had I not conceived that the plan would really have been carried into execution: but now, four years are elapsed, and nothing more has been done towards a scheme, in which gentlemen were so zealous.

FOR, the SOCIETY, in their petition to Parliament, in the session immediately succeeding, informed the house also of this transaction, and added; "*It being their intention to keep up a succession of apprentices, in order to supply the distant parts of the country, with skilful workmen and husbandmen.*"—And in the SOCIETY's petition to the last session of Parliament, the same words were repeated.

THESE words in the first petition, were so solemn a declaration; and in the second, such an earnest of steady perseverance; in confirmation of what had passed during the negotiation of this transaction; that I relied upon it, by this time, that this undertaking would have been in so flourishing away, as to have added dignity to the SOCIETY, and honour to the nation: But it has happened, from an infinity of business I presume, that this undertaking seems to have been forgotten; as if it were to have died away, with the expiring time of the first five apprentices.

WHAT end this can answer to the SOCIETY, or the publick, I do not see: But had it been supported with that spirit and zeal with which it was begun, I should have had pleasure in the conducting of it. So many individuals would have been rendered valuable, and instructing members of the community; and dignity and honour would have been daily accumulating thereby to the authors of an undertaking, which seems to be expiring in its infancy, with those other undertakings, upon which it was grafted

THE annual allowance for these boys, has always been added; when it has been thought necessary to exhibit the sum total which I have received from the SOCIETY for various (I can't but think) valuable considerations, with a view to impede or obstruct my being paid my annual allowance for "*repeating, extending, and making your experiments,*" under your express instructions.

SURELY

SURELY, gentlemen who have used the sum total as a negative argument to my being paid for the experiment, don't expect me to make them for this sum which I am allowed for the apprentices? they surely must have forgot, or cannot know, that I embarked in this undertaking to *oblige* the SOCIETY: And if the political mind of the SOCIETY is changed in this, *their own* scheme; surely, when gentlemen shall consider the matter upon principles of delicacy and honour, my whole undertakings are tacitly under the support and patronage of the SOCIETY as much as this, at least for the time they have engaged me therein; their repeated instructions for experiments confirm, that the *body* think so; or why should I have tied myself down for seven years to their five apprentices?

SURELY, gentlemen cannot imagine that I can be a gainer by this contract with the SOCIETY, except, in how much I may have obliged, in complying with their request; and when a man engages in an undertaking, where much trouble, vexation, and expence attends it, (as must be supposed to have attended this) without any profit; it is manifest the engagement is to oblige; and gentlemen who were at the negotiation and conclusion of this affair, I am sure will remember my engagement was meerly to oblige; as, even at that time, I was most incommodiouly circumstanced to embark in such an undertaking; how much more so to conduct it since the fire, may be conceived: And yet, some few gentlemen have seemed to think, the matter a great acquisition to me.

I SHALL ever consider it an object truly desirable, and highly worthy my attention, to oblige so respectable a body as the DUBLIN SOCIETY; but then I wish every member thereof, to understand the subject in its real, and proper light.

I HAVE thus endeavoured to remind and inform gentlemen, how I became honoured with the patronage of the SOCIETY; how my expectations, and dependance, have been excited from time to time, by the various resolutions, proceedings, and instructions of the SOCIETY: And have, I hope, not improperly, or unsuccessfully, endeavoured to re-
move

move some mistaken objections, and prejudices, as they occasionally occurred to my memory, in the course of my treating of the different departments, in which I am employed, under the sanction, patronage, and encouragement, of the SOCIETY.

I SHALL now beg leave to take notice of some objections, and other matters, which come under a more general head, and therefore, could not so properly come in, when I was upon the distinct departments.

IT has been most unkindly reported by some persons who have endeavoured to injure me, that “ *my loss by the fire, amounted only to a trifle ;*” some have been cruel enough to say, “ *it did not amount to £30, and that the houses which I had burned, consisted only of mud walls.*”

I SHALL endeavour to remove these conceptions. It is very well known, that just before the fire, I had erected a new house for my forges, which was a well finished, and substantial building of lime and stone ; and, that the furnishing that cost me a large sum of money ; besides which, in the loft of it, were many valuable materials for my factory : My dwelling-house a part brick, and a part stone, and some of my furniture valuable, besides an infinity of machines and timber, which were consumed ; so that, upon the most moderate calculation, my immediate loss amounted to at least £500 ; and I am fully persuaded, the consequential loss made the injury to me, near, if not quite as much more.

I RECEIVED of publick bounty £209 18s. *and no more*, even this, malevolence has augmented to 700 and £1000 : But to put it fully in the power of those who have thus represented this sum, to discover and inform me and the publick, from whence the remainder came, I shall state the particulars, as they stand in my ledger, which make the sum I did receive ; and I have the more pleasure in doing it here, as it is the first opportunity I have had, of making my publick, and grateful acknowledgments, to the respectable names hereafter written, and to such gentlemen as contributed thereto.

By .

By Sir <i>Lucius O'Brien</i> , Bart. from himself, and other gentlemen, by him collected.	160	7	9
By <i>Maurice Coppinger</i> , Esq; collected by him and paid to me by Dr. <i>Cbaigneau</i> . - -	26	3	3
By the Right Honourable the Earl of <i>Sban-</i> <i>non</i> , transmitted by himself, by post. - - -	5	13	9
By <i>Thomas Le Hunte</i> , Esq; and <i>Michael</i> <i>Dally</i> , Esq; by them collected. - - -	3	8	3
By <i>Amas Busb</i> , Esq; himself. - - - -	4	0	3
By Colonel <i>Bury</i> , paid me, by Dr. <i>Cbaigneau</i> .	2	5	6
By Sir <i>Henry Cavendish</i> , Bart. himself. - -	2	5	6
By <i>Richard Lewinge</i> , Esq; himself, transmitted by post. - - - - -	5	13	9
	£	209	18 0

THE sum total which I have received from time to time, from the SOCIETY, for the different departments, and for different services and other considerations, has been frequently urged as a negative argument, against my being paid my annual stipend, for making the experiments under your express instructions.

I HAVE a true sense of the confidence reposed in me by the SOCIETY, and upon all occasions have most gratefully acknowledged it; but as the most certain test, and proof, I could give thereof, which is beyond any parade of words or professions, I have executed what the SOCIETY set me about, far exceeding what I thought I could do; and I cannot but believe, much more than could be expected; and when gentlemen come to re-consider the variety of business I am engaged in, under the SOCIETY's *express*, and implied *instructions*, as I have already shewn; I hope they will think the labour, hazard, application, and expence, with the services done, a full and ample consideration for the various sums, which make the sum total: For, I can hardly conceive that gentlemen expect, I should proceed with undertakings, year after year, for the sums *I have* received; when, with the return of every year, fresh expences occur with the seasons, and the application in no degree abated: But if gentlemen

gentlemen think the undertakings not worth pursuing, I humbly apprehend, that should *become* the question to be agitated, and not whether I shall be paid for what I am doing under your express and positive instructions.

And if any gentlemen are really of that opinion, I most humbly submit to the consideration of the SOCIETY, whether such a question should be suddenly determined, without previous, and accurate enquiry, into the progress, and conduct, of undertakings, which, from their very name, imply the life, and improvement of the first national object. I also submit it, whether, upon such a question, the sense of the whole of your body, should not be endeavoured to be obtained, by long notice upon your paper. I own it is a question, I should be glad to hear of being proposed upon such terms.

It has some times been an enquiry of gentlemen in debate, upon the question of my being paid for obeying your instructions, "*whether any of my methods of tillage are practised by farmers or other persons,*" and it was a question in the freemans Journal, by my friend Agricola, "*calling upon any gentleman, to shew any one instance where the experiments answered any one useful purpose.*"

THE latter question was answered by two or three in the *Journal*, two of whom I have since known; and one of them is a gentleman of highly reputable character, both in the SOCIETY, and every other circumstance of life; the other is a gentleman who occupies the bulk of his own estate, he thinking it too small, to live upon the rent it would afford; and I am happy in having contributed so much to his service and profit, in this, his praise worthy occupation. Both these gentlemen offered to declare themselves, if *Agricola* would do the like; and I signed my name to what I wrote, which I think was as much as any individual member could expect, when he appeared under anonymous names: but the gentleman chose not to join issue upon those terms; to charge in disguise, suited him better, than open manly declaration.

I shall now answer these two enquiries, which come in the shape and form of objections, by informing the SOCIETY, that if it shall be their pleasure, I will apply to many gentlemen

tllemen in the different provinces for credentials, whether my undertakings have not already contributed to the improvement of agriculture as much, as could possibly be expected, for the time I have been employed: for I fear not but to obtain such testimonies of approbation, as would give pleasure to the SOCIETY, if they could find time to examine them, and I believe afford me some credit with gentlemen who think unfavourably.

But would gentlemen wish, or mean to destroy undertakings which must eventually afford many improvements and advantages? suppose not one had as yet arisen in their infancy: can it be expected, that every man can or will adopt immediately every thing that is recommended? are not the end and purposes of the experiments, to discover which methods, and which plants are to be preferred; and consequently which are to be recommended to the use and practice of the publick? are they not calculated to operate and prevail upon men to imitate them, where they are found successful, by exhibiting them to their view? or do gentlemen expect that I, or any other individual can pursue them, and that without a fortune, when the publick interest is the sole object? Suppose I could pursue them, and many benefits arose to the publick, the SOCIETY, would still have the credit of supporting them; when in fact, if the majority had acted as the minority would have had them, they had been deserted some time ago.

IF I had pursued these whole undertakings as I have done, at my own suit, is there any one gentleman in the kingdom who would not have regarded, applauded, and esteemed me for it? would not every man have spoke of it as meritorious? Permit me to appeal to the mind of every gentleman individually then, and let him examine, whether my misfortune in not having an income equal to this, in any degree abates the *merit*, and utility of the work? tho' I shall admit that in point of complexion, my being paid (if I were fully) lessens the liberality of spirit which the other form would shew; but then I claim the having that spirit and disposition; which was the very circumstance that made me a farmer.

WOULD

WOULD gentlemen wish that the DUBLIN SOCIETY, should just give their sanction to undertakings of such national consequence; then to something else, and leave the conduct and support of them upon any individual? surely not, for the mere sanction of the SOCIETY will not keep any undertaking alive.

I beg leave to observe; that the very word experiment, implies hazard and certain expence, attended with *precarious* gain, but *certain* information: my whole undertakings come under the appellation of experiment, for every plant I cultivate, and every mode I attempt, every machine I make or amend is an experiment, under speculation. Should I be obliged to bear the expence, because my mind leads me to such enquiries? is not my labour and attention enough? Small experiments would sufficiently gratify and inform me, for the direction of my own private pursuits; but for the publick view, and publick conviction, I must exhibit fields, thereby to animate imitation, whilst my name is honour'd with the sanction of the DUBLIN SOCIETY; and that sanction will lead the publick to me; and shall it be expected that I must continue to hold out such exhibitions, and give my time to the calls of the publick, without being paid for my time, trouble and expence? or can it be imagined I can do it upon *precarious* or *uncertain* terms? it has been plain, that a majority of the SOCIETY, have thought the contrary.

I beg leave to pursue this chain of reasoning a little further: suppose our experiments had been so long depending, as to have perfectly discovered every information that we can possibly wish for; yet, even in that case, it cannot be supposed that every occupier of land in the kingdom could be at once prevailed upon to adopt those discoveries; every man would not have seen them in practice—permit me—would it not be worthy of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, would it not correspond with their institution still to pay me, or any other man, for holding out those exhibitions for the reinspection of those who had seen, for the inspection and conviction of those

those who had not seen, but might? I own I think so, were it even for 500 years.

It has been urged, that better books upon the subject of agriculture are a ready extant, than can possibly be expected from me; and therefore, experimental enquiries by me, under the SOCIETY's instructions are not necessary.

It seems, that gentlemen who reason in this manner, imagine, the only way of instructing the gentleman and farmer in the judicious management of land, is to arise from books: Were that the case, it is a wonder, that every man in the kingdom is not fully acquainted with the best methods of improving land, the most profitable plants, and the best culture of them: And yet, notwithstanding the number of books we have, how few do we find, acquainted with those particulars?

I SHALL not offer to lessen the merit of any ancient or modern writers; every man's performance must stand upon its own bottom; and I hope, in the little things which I have sent into the world at the *instance* of the DUBLIN SOCIETY; there appears through the whole, a spirit of candour, esteem, and regard, for the character and abilities of every ingenious writer: However deficient mine may appear to the works of others, plagiarism has been no part of my demerit: And whilst I live to see my publications quoted, nay, in a manner wholly transcribed by the writers in a neighbouring kingdom; whilst I receive repeated letters of approbation from living authors, (and with whom I am not acquainted) whose writings are in the highest repute; honourable marks of approbation from other SOCIETIES, soliciting my correspondence and assistance; and the favour of a very *honourable majority* of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, the argument just recited, will give me the less concern; for the measure of a man's grief at reproach, and of his happiness under approbation, will always be determined in his own mind, by the reputed judgment and experience, of the persons condemning, or commending; and because I think, I am as well acquainted with the books extant, as most men in this kingdom; and shall venture to say, that I have furnished the world with some new hints; have brought to light, the merit and use of some plants not known before; and in many instances,

stances, have shewn the practicability of methods, recommended by the most ingenious writers.

I HEARTILY congratulate mankind, that there are many very excellent, and instructing books already extant upon our subject, and I take pride in acknowledging, that I owe the greatest obligations to the labours of *Tull, Duhamel, Chateau-Vieux, Mills, Home, Hales, Shaw, Boyle, Hoffman, M^cQuare, Stillingfleet, Columella, Bacon, Evelyn, Laurence, Hart, &c.*

BUT I beg leave to ask, who reads these instructing books?

How many persons are there in the kingdom who read them all?

And of those, how many are there, who perfectly understand every subject?

How many were there, who had put the instructions of those ingenious men in *practice*, to the conviction of farmers, before I appeared?

Have not my fields been visited by thousands?

Have not those under experiments, and my publications, raised a spirit and emulation through the kingdom, not known before?

How many farmers read the voluminous productions of the ingenious men above named?

How many are there, who can understand them?

How many are there, who can afford to buy them, if they could understand them?

And, are there not many of the persons we wish to instruct, who cannot read them at all, if they had them?

WE have experienced, that these are the impediments to improvement, which the books extant have not, and I fear, cannot overcome. These considerations induced me to think of the plan, of exhibiting experiments in actual practice, to the inspection of the publick; and I presume, the same reasons induced the DUBLIN SOCIETY to adopt my plan; and that respectable majority, who have always appeared on my behalf, to support it to this day.

BUT gentlemen, who urge the kind of reasoning already mentioned as a negative argument against me, seem to forget, that the best written performance, we have, cannot convey

conviction to the doubtful, and unbelieving, so fully, as seeing any system the writer recommends, reduced to actual practice in the field; for, if it could, every man who reads, would be as good a farmer, as he who is in practice. And yet, the theorist in any science is not looked upon to be so perfect a master, as he who is in actual practice; for I fancy, a theoretical navigator, who might acquit himself very well over a bottle upon the subject, would make put a poor figure at the helm in a rough sea, when put in competition with the practical knowledge and experience of an unpolished sailor. Just so it is in the field. The farmer in theory knows what a plough is, and that it is to be drawn by cattle; but knows no more how to set it to work, or to yoke the cattle, than the book does, which he has been reading; and yet, he will hold his judgment to be above that of the man, who, perhaps, is quite equal to him in theory, and more extensive in practice.

MANY of the people, whom we wish to instruct, we may read to, and talk to, until we are tired, and they cannot be persuaded to believe a word we say; but shew them a field under any mode of culture, or under any plant you would recommend; and in five minutes, they will receive more conviction, than five years spent in the clearest reasoning will convey.

OF this fact, I have just now had as striking an instance, as ever I had in my life: A little farmer in my neighbourhood, who is at least sixty years of age, and rents about £30 a year in land, which is all he has arrived to from following a plough his whole life, has, for six years past, been an occasional visitor of mine. His little farm not affording grass, he has been every year buying hay for wintering his cattle: I have frequently persuaded him to sow a few turnips, and plant a few cabbages to lessen that expence, but all to no effect. Last *June*, when I was putting five acres of ground under cabbage plants, he came into the field; and jibingly said, "why sir, you will have cabbage *enough* for your cows:" in short, he had no opinion of it, notwithstanding I took some pains to convince him of the utility of the practice. He came here to day (the 11th of *September*) complaining, "O lord, sir, (said he) I have bought my hay, and it is so high, as to have cost me £20." I could not but smile at him, and took him into the field he saw me planting in
June.

June. The man was astonished, his doubts all vanished ; he is now determined to have turnips and cabbages himself for the future ; and asserts in his surprize, there will be more food for cattle upon these five acres of ground, than any forty acres in the neighbourhood, under grass, can afford. Indeed, I believe there will be as much in the distressing months of the spring, as any ten acres can afford of natural grass in *June*.

THE like circumstance happened lately, with a gentleman of my neighbourhood, who came to look at my fields ; for, henceforward he is to be a cabbage farmer ; and altho' I have sometimes had conversation with him upon the subject, (as he is fond) of feeding, yet, I never could prevail upon him to adopt the practice, until he saw my present exhibitions of winter pastures.

SOME people have imagined, it is sufficient to cultivate cabbages, without paying any regard to the kinds, and manner of cultivation. In these particulars also, the utility of my experiments has most happily appeared ; because they are leading us to discover, in what seasons the different kinds of this tribe will best answer to the farmer, grazier, and dairy man ; and under what culture they can be rendered most prolifick, at the smallest expence.—And perhaps, it is one of the most important subjects we can experiment upon ; because, it tends to promote variety of advantageous improvements in tillage.—But I shall be pretty full upon these points in my report for this year, tho' by no means so full as I find the subject is capable of ; for every day, new ideas arise from my practice, which before I had no conception of, because the books we have extant do not lead me to them.

I APPEAL to gentlemen, who think unfavourably of my endeavours in the publick service, whether these kind of circumstances, of which I could name an infinite number, (not all so strong indeed) are not fully “ *answering the useful purposes intended by my experiments ?* ” I appeal to the candid, whether they do not shew the utility and importance to the publick, of my exhibiting experiments in this manner ? For gentlemen, and farmers, adopting these methods from my exhibitions, excite others to imitate them ; and so by degrees, the utility of my experiments diffuses advantageous practices through the kingdom.

UPON these considerations, I sincerely hope, from the love I have to mankind, that the DUBLIN SOCIETY, will ever have in their employment, an experimental farmer, so long as they remain a SOCIETY. That I shall be the person, is not my wish or desire a day longer, than until the SOCIETY can procure another, *better* qualified to answer so desirable a purpose ; and I seriously recommend it to gentlemen, who think unfavourably of me, that they seek for, and, finding such a person, propose him to the consideration and protection of the SOCIETY ; for I neither wish, nor mean, to saddle myself upon any man, or body of men : All I hope, or wish for, is *impartial justice*, without favour or affection : That being obtained, reflections will be silent ; and the distresses, which I can truly say, my zeal, and integrity in the service I am in, have brought upon me, will be removed.

As to the books extant being superior to mine, it is a point I shall not controvert ; because most of the books we have are offered to the world as systems of agriculture ; mine are only accurate accounts of experiments, made in a few years, upon particular methods, and under particular circumstances ; *warning* the publick as far as they have gone, what they *may do*, and what they are to *avoid* ; candidly relating things as they happened : That, I hope, is praise worthy ? I boldly claim it, as being meritorious ; and I am proud that they have gone into the world, under the sanction of the DUBLIN SOCIETY.

AT the same time, I beg leave to urge, that my expectations of serving, and informing the publick, arose not from my consequential publications, any farther, than from their making the publick more acquainted with what I am doing in their service, under the *instructions* of the DUBLIN SOCIETY ; and thereby, they are the more induced, and persuaded, to *visit*, and *examine*, my exhibitions in the field ; because *there*, *actual practice* appears, and *conviction* ensues from *ocular demonstration* : From this it was that I expected to do, and I hope, have done mankind real service ; and I presume, these were the prevailing motives, which induced the SOCIETY, to request the publication of my different papers ; and also, the motives for their distributing them over the kingdom, as well as to shew their anxiety in the service of the publick.

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN, who have been pleased to espouse my undertakings, have been distinguished under the name of "*Mr. Baker's friends.*"

I AM very happy to find, that I have friends, and take pride in tendering my most grateful acknowledgments to every gentleman, who is so kind as to allow me to consider him my friend, here in a country, where I am a stranger; and I promise them, in every character, and condition, to behave in such a manner, as shall not disgrace their friendship.

GENTLEMEN, who have intended this appellation as a reproach, will please to consider how I came to have so many friends in the kingdom; so many even in the DUBLIN SOCIETY, as always to have had a respectable majority, upon every question: They can't say it has arisen from national connections, electioneering influence, parliamentary, or any other interest; because, when I landed upon the *Irish* shore, there were only two gentlemen in the kingdom, with whom I had the least acquaintance; they were both strangers, and have long since left the kingdom.

I APPEAL then, to the sentiments of gentlemen, how I can have made so many friends, as I flatter myself I have? It is manifest, from no other cause, than my application to the undertakings, in which I am engaged; and that equity, and candour, which I have experienced in the gentlemen, who have examined my labours: And if they are partial to me, it must be imputed to the love they have for their country, because they are pleased to think I have been, and can be useful, in the improvement of it.

GENTLEMEN very well know, I have not made those friends, by going from house to house, soliciting the favourable attendance of gentlemen, as most of the people do, who appear before the SOCIETY: My duty to the employment I hold, will not allow me time for it; neither can I practice it; because I consider such a practice, fit for none but those, who have nothing else to recommend them: I should be ashamed, I should be afraid to offer any thing so affronting to that virtue, which should, and I am persuaded does, guide the sentiments of the members of your House:
And

And where gentlemen act from principle, and happen not to be properly informed, it is unfortunate to the party interested ; but generally to no purpose his attempting to inform, unless he is called upon ; then, and then only, as I conceive, he acts becomingly, in stating things as they are.

SOME attempts I understand have been made, to possess the SOCIETY of an idea, that I am and have been disobliging : A charge, which I own surprized me ; because I can say with the most conscientious truth, that I have with the same courtesy received all men, from the lord to the peasant ; explained, answered questions, letters, gone journies, frequently sent my servants, horses, and instruments, to the aid of those who called, without fee or reward. I cannot but say, I am sorry the whole of my conduct in this way has not been known in the SOCIETY ; if it had, I think I should not have a negative voice in that house.

I HAVE heard, it has been frequently urged, as a negative argument, against my annual allowance for making the experiments——“ *that I have the crops arising from the different experiments*”.

SURELY, gentlemen, who urge that kind of negative reasoning, will think it highly reasonable that *I should have* them, because they are the produce of land, which I pay the rent of, they are the produce of my labour and expence ; and because I believe, according to the ideas we have of property, no other man can be found, who is so justly entitled to them.

I AM at a loss to conceive what this kind of reasoning tends to ; do gentlemen imagine, that the produce of my experiments is a *consideration*, for my application and expence in pursuing them ? or do they imagine, that for the precarious gain, which the very word experiment implies, I am to give my time to the service of the public, under the nominal protection, and positive instructions of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, without being rewarded for my trouble and expence ?

I BEG gentlemen will be so good as to consider, that there is much difference between my pursuing a regular
course

course of business upon my farm for the improvement of it, and my own profit, and that of carrying on variety of experiments in my fields, for the inspection and information of the publick.

THE making meadow is looked upon to be the solid and capital improvement upon a farm, because that enhances the value of it, beyond any other species of improvement : instead of doing that, when I have brought a piece of ground to a state fit for it, I am obliged to carry on a course of experiments, in order to discover and shew the most profitable methods of treating land in a course of tillage ; because, tillage is the object of the SOCIETY ; and in those experiments, often foregoing methods, which being pursued, would be profitable and advantageous to me : of this I could shew many instances, since I have had the honour of being in the service of the SOCIETY.

WITHOUT dwelling longer upon this subject ; I beg leave to appeal to the SOCIETY at large, as the fountain, from which equitable sentiments will flow ; whether, if my experiments were even every one profitable in the event, and that I conducted them at little or no expence ; my giving my time to the service of the publick, and answering their various applications, are not considerations, which amply intitle me to my annual allowance, so long as I continue to act under *your Sanction* and under *your instructions* ? But when my truly respected Patrons shall consider, how great must be my expence, how much care and application, every experiment requires, through every stage of it, from the commencement to the completion, with all the train of consequential labour ; I flatter myself you will consider, that I have been retained in this, your service, upon very reasonable terms.

FOR my part, I only wish to remove prejudices, which, I am very willing to believe, have chiefly been founded in mistake ; and therefore I have endeavoured, in the course of these sheets, to answer every objection, which I have ever heard of ; and if I have been successful therein, I shall be truly happy ; but if any gentleman shall have any objection remaining upon his mind, after reading this remonstrance, in relation to my conduct in the discharge of my duty, I shall esteem it a mark of his favour, if he will be so kind as

to give me an opportunity of answering it, because it would really grieve me to lie under the unfavourable conceptions of any gentleman, whose sentiments are founded upon principles of honour and equity.

I HAVE heard that some persons have said *I am expensive in my domestick affairs*; a circumstance, with which the generality of mankind have so little to do, that I should not take notice of it, did I not recollect, that I am making my appeal to the DUBLIN SOCIETY; a *Body*, to whom I am conscious I owe many obligations; and therefore, that such unkind insinuations may be rendered as feeble as they are false, I shall endeavour to prevent such representations gaining any credit with the SOCIETY; by troubling you with a view of my domestick expences, as they stand in my books, ever since I had the honour of being in your service.

The amount of my Domestick expences for the last five years as they stand in my books.

				l.	s.	d.
1764.	From January 1st.	to December 31st		95	0	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1765.	From Do.	- to Do	-	132	15	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
1766.	From Do.	- to Do.	-	127	18	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
1767.	From Do.	- to Do.	-	119	8	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1768.	From Do.	- to Do.	-	132	5	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
				607	8	3 $\frac{1}{2}$

THUS I have stated the expence of my domestick affairs, as they really have been, which we see, in the course of *five* years, amount to £607 8s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. But that the SOCIETY may form a clear judgment of the nature of that expence, and how much I am master of it in every respect, thereby to avoid such insinuations as are above mentioned, I shall state the particulars of the last year.

Dr.

Dr. HOUSEKEEPING for the Year 1768

		l.	s.	d.
Dec. 31.	To the hearth Tax	0	10	0
	To Beer	1	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Bread	1	14	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Butter	7	0	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
	To Candles	2	9	2
	To Coals	8	1	5
	To Earthen-ware	1	2	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Fish	1	7	8
	To Repairing Furniture	1	9	8
	To Gardens, labour and Seeds.	5	0	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
	To Glafs Ware	0	6	6
	To Horses, by labour and drawing Coals, &c.	1	8	1
	To Labourers going for coals, &c.	2	13	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To petty Articles	4	4	7
	To Market Expences	0	15	2
	To Meat	15	5	6
	To Medicines	1	0	6
	To News Papers	0	13	0
	To Oatmeal	0	1	0
	To Oil	0	1	6
	To Potatoes	1	18	9
	To Poultry	2	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Salt	0	17	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Snuff	1	7	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Soap, Blue and Starch	2	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	To Spices	0	9	7
	To Spirits	2	0	10
	To Sugar	6	4	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
	To Servants Wages	3	19	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
	To Tea	2	13	3
	To Vinegar	0	2	3
	To Wooden Ware	0	11	3
	To Wheat	12	11	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
	To Wine	2	9	0
	To Wearing apparel for my self and my Family	35	17	11
		132	5	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
		THUS		

THUS gentlemen see the particulars of one year's expence, and in which every material used off the farm, with the work of horses and labourers, are included.— And I am persuaded the SOCIETY will wish, that every man they have encouraged, could give as clear an account of this part of his conduct as I have done; and that such accounts were attended to with the same accuracy, not only amongst those, who cannot afford to be expensive, but even introduced in the domestick affairs of the opulent and the great: in that case, I shall be bold to say, that the servants of such would much better know themselves and their situation; that many families would remain in a state of comfortable decency longer than they do, and the nation be benefited thereby: the motives, which led me to so strict an œconomy, I shall not describe, but leave to the discernment of the candid and the generous; who I am sure will feel for me, when they shall consider, had I not met with repeated outrages, such as few men have experienced, that I should have had pretensions to live at a rate per annum, equal, to either ten, or even twenty times the whole amount of my last five years expence:—but that is over,—and I am truly thankful to almighty GOD, that (notwithstanding so great a change; a change, which would have sunk many men into languor and despair, if it had not more materially affected them) I am blessed with fortitude enough to exercise manly, and becoming endeavours, to support a large family; and well pleased, that I can practice such an œconomy.

LEST gentlemen should imagine that in this account, I include the expence of maintaining and cloathing the apprentices, it may be proper for me to say, that I keep a distinct account for them, under the title of *Apprentices*. And that this expence relates merely to my own family.

IT was once said, by one person, in a publick meeting, that I. “*embezzled the money of the SOCIETY.*”—There is something hardy in this assertion. However, I shall only answer it by saying, that I never had access to the treasurer's chest, nor even to his hands, without a legal order of the SOCIETY; and how I have used the money the SOCIETY have been pleased to grant me from time to time; what I have done will

will prove, and I hope this remonstrance will shew ; but above all, their resolutions, and petitions to Parliament, will confirm.—The inference to be drawn from this mighty charge, is so plain, that it needs no comment.

VARIOUS reflections of this kind, from time to time, I own have much disturbed me ; and I was induced some time ago, with an hope of being informed of the cause of complaint against me, to call upon one of the members of the SOCIETY, who always appeared in the opposition ; and begged he would be so candid as to let me know, what it was that I *had done*, or what I had *omitted to do*, which had been productive of an opposition he espoused.—I really imagined this was a very fair and reasonable question, in a case of so publick a nature as this, and respecting undertakings, calculated wholly for the publick benefit.

ALL the information I could get from the gentleman was, that “ *all the money, which had been advanced to me from time to time by the SOCIETY, was an act of charity.—And that thirteen pence a-piece was too high a price for my books.*”

THIS information does not seem to warrant the many hard things which have been said.—I appeal to the several resolutions of the SOCIETY, their petitions to Parliament, the sentiments of the publick, as to what I have done, and the preceding part of this remonstrance, whether the sums granted, were for “ *charity.*”—I appeal to the minutes, whether the SOCIETY did not fix the price of the books ? —What I have set forth in the preceding sheets, I hope, will clear that majority, who have always espoused me, of this *charitable* imputation.

My purpose in calling upon this gentleman was, with an hope of being enabled by his candid information, to remove any mistaken conceptions which gentlemen on his side the question might labour under, respecting me, or the undertakings I am engaged in ; but as from his account, the mistake seems to be with the *majority* of the SOCIETY, in having been very *charitable* to me, and in making too hard a bargain for books, I must leave it with them to consider ;
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and content myself with having answered all the objections which have come to my knowledge.

I SHALL now beg leave, to submit to the consideration of the SOCIETY, some general difficulties, and hardships, which I have laboured under, respecting the factory.

IN the commencement of this undertaking, gentlemen will surely conceive many difficulties to have arisen, in the collecting proper men for the execution of the work; since I was in every respect to get better machines made, than had been in use, and many, which never had been made before.

It will be admitted then, that, altho' I was to choose the best workmen I could get, they were to be taught to execute my design in every new, and in the improvement of every old machine. This might have been easy with one or two men, had the machines, as they occurred to my mind, been for my own use only; but the demand, obliging me to increase the number of hands for the sake of dispatch, increased the difficulty and labour upon me.

THE incommodiousness of the place will be easily conceived to have added to my difficulty in keeping such a number of refractory people together, whose mean, and corrupt spirit, would induce them to presume upon their own consequence to an undertaking, which was so new in itself, and in which they saw such a demand; all conspiring together, how most to embarrass, and distress me, thereby to subvert the reasonable order of dominion, and to bring me to terms, not to be complied with: A conduct, not to be wondered at, when we daily see it to be the general practice of the working mechanical people, in this kingdom.

By degrees, I have been obliged to erect buildings, for the reception of my artificers, some of which are finished, and others are in hands.

THE neighbourhood, not affording provisions, in any regular mode, sufficient to supply such an influx of people, has obliged me, at all times, to keep large quantities of provisions, to supply them, and their families.

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THE discerning judgment of every gentleman, who understands business, or who has considered the nature of it, and the disposition of the lower class of people, will immediately see, how distressing all these circumstances must have been, especially under the difficulty of an insufficient capital, and where such a work was to be conducted.

BUT this has not been all, for I have scarcely employed any men, to whom I have not been obliged to be in advance, and to some of them, to a very large amount : Many of those fellows have run away in my debt, as the debit of the general account has already shewn.

ANOTHER hardship I have laboured under, which has been very singular ; and I think by no means fair. Several of my artificers have been invited, and tempted to leave me ; some, by persons, who I imagined, were above such conduct ; and some by others, who have vainly, and unhappily, flattered themselves, with the expectations of supplanting me. The latter surprizes me not, but I own, the former I wonder at.

IT has been frequently mentioned by gentlemen, as a matter of some admiration, that I did not establish a ware-house in *Dublin*, in which to keep an assortment of my instruments, ready for sale. It is a measure, which the undertaking has required ; but I have never yet been able to keep an assortment here, neither have I proper houses to keep them in ; and therefore, much less capable of doing it in *Dublin*, as manifestly appears from what I have already set forth : But, were the undertakings properly supported, there should always be such a quantity of goods upon hand, (both here, and in town,) as instantly to supply any demand.

IN the course of that connection, with which I have been honoured by the SOCIETY, I have observed it an object of much desire in them, to promote the establishment of protestant colonies. I imagined, I should gain their approbation, by availing myself of the nature of this undertaking, in such an attempt ; and I have made no inconsiderable progress therein, having already several protestant families upon my farm.

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HAVING demonstrably shewn, I hope to the conviction of *the ingenuous*, that I cannot yet have been a gainer by these undertakings; I appeal to the SOCIETY, and to the breast of every gentleman individually, what is to be my situation, after spending years in the service of the publick, without emolument to my family? Am I then to be discarded? Am I then to seek a new employment? The present precarious terms, upon which I proceed, seem to say so.—This consideration, added to the many circumstances of hazard, loss, labour, application, reproach and disappointment, which I have already set forth in this remonstrance, I hope, will plead my excuse, for having troubled the SOCIETY in this manner.

THUS I have presumed, my *much honoured Patrons*, to lay before you, the *three* departments, in which I have had the honour to act, under your *immediate sanction*, and *various instructions*; with a slight view of that train of *consequential* business, which has engaged my attention, in every stage of this, your service: Well knowing your candour, I *have presumed to shew* you, how my *dependance, upon your support*, has been excited year after year, by *your own resolutions, your own instructions, and other transactions*; in which my reputation, and the undertakings I am engaged in, have been *materially interested*: I have endeavoured to answer every objection, which I have ever heard of to the undertakings, or my conduct of them, in such a manner, as I flatter myself will be satisfactory to the discerning, the candid, and the just: In humble supplication, I have entreated a redress of grievances; and through the whole, the nature of *my case* comes *fully* before you.

FROM that impartial justice, which I am sure you mean to be the guide of all your actions, I should have the most *implicit faith*, of your considering all these matters in their *full force*, were there even *no other* considerations to lead you to it, than the hardships of an individual; but when I recollect, that the basis of your institution is PUBLICK UTILITY; and that you have taught me to think, my *endeavours in your service* have led so directly to *that*, your *meritorious object*; I have not, I cannot, retain the shadow of a doubt, but that you will most candidly, and dispassionately,
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take under your serious consideration the case of a man, whose diligence and application in *your service* you have so often approved: Your connections with whom, you have repeatedly, and so distinguishingly, laid before the *august assembly of the nation*; and whose endeavours (under your auspices) in the publick service, you have, by the whole tenor of your conduct, so strongly recommended to the publick imitation; and of which, they have in numberless instances, availed themselves.

UPON the whole, when you shall consider, my *truly respected Patrons*, that in the prosecution of these, *your works*; rapid flames of fire overset me; that difficulties have *ever since* been arising as to my annual support, and consequently, daily doubts taking possession of me, until you have pass'd some fresh order of instructions, which still, as they have come, put away my fears, and gave new vigour, to my before, languishing dependance; because, from thence I have conceived, gentlemen to be better informed; but with the annual return, new difficulties have still arisen, and therefore, new doubts have taken place in my mind, a mind, harrassed by distresses; involved by re-establishing the undertakings, which you appeared to have so much at heart; strained on one side by various applications, solicitations, and disappointments; and on the other, by daily instructions to my people, their disobedience, negligence, profligacy, frauds, and impositions; and *above all*, eternally exercised in sorrow, to make provision for the calls of the day that was passing over me. Under this group of evils, I humbly submit to *your consideration*, how I am to proceed with undertakings, which are, in themselves, attended with great, and heavy expence?

YOUR instructions, of the 23d of *March* last "*recommends to my particular attention*" the investigation of "*manures upon tillage and meadow.*"—Here is a field, of a most extensive nature, in which I have the honour of your directions to embark: An enquiry, which brings in, every species of animal substance, and the digestion of animals; almost every species of fossil, and every species of vegetable; not only as to their capability of promoting vegetation; but how the class of vegetables within the farmers department, can be rendered most prolifick, by the use of different degrees of
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of those different tribes; distinctly, in their natural state, and also, under different stages of alteration, mixed, and unmixed with other bodies, in variety of proportions: And all this, "*upon as many different soils as may be.*" But as to these particulars it is, that, as I conceive, with which this enquiry should end; for there should be an infinite deal done first, by chymically analyzing the various bodies, which should come under consideration in this enquiry, to ascertain of what they are composed; and thereby we should be led to know, how they operate upon different occasions: These analizations should be mixed in different proportions; thereby to discover their effects upon each other; attended with an infinity of speculative experiments, to lay open the hidden treasures of nature; thereby to accomplish this desirable object, to the use of the farmer, and the general benefit of mankind: And perhaps, nothing would lead us faster to information, than examining soils of different qualities in the same manner. I might go on, for here is room enough; but I shall say no more, this will suffice to shew gentlemen, that this enquiry, which I have the honour to be directed to enter upon, is of a very *extensive nature*: An enquiry, which, by its being too great for an individual (circumstanced as I am) to support, is thereby rendered more worthy of the DUBLIN SOCIETY: An enquiry, which, whoever may execute it, will be no less honourable to the SOCIETY, than to the gentleman who moved for it: And an enquiry, which, when gentlemen shall please to consider it, they will see requires a man of some practical knowledge in chymistry to pursue it, and an apparatus, such (as I before said) farmers are not acquainted with.

To pursue this measure, by committing different bodies to the earth, in order to discover their effects in vegetation, would be to exhibit the effects, without shewing the causes; often miscarrying, and therefore, perhaps, as frequently condemning the use of particular bodies, by not first knowing their heterogeneous parts, in quantity and quality, we should thereby remain strangers to their actions, and consequently by using them insufficiently, or over much, be led improperly to pronounce against them. In short, it would be like a mariner steering a ship in a wide sea, when, by the loss of his magnet and reckoning, he should be reduced to the necessity of directing his course by guess.

THE enquiry is such a one, as I have long been ambitious of entering into; and, had not my unfortunate fire, added to the uncertainty I have found myself in, *ever since* that unhappy event, impeded my design, and much checked my spirits; I should long since have endeavoured to provide the necessary apparatus, to enable myself to embark in an enquiry, so replete with information to mankind; but as things now stand; I appeal to gentlemen, how I can embark in any further *certain expence*, when I have, every year, for three past, found myself in so *precarious a situation*, as I have already shewn? But when I consider, that it is to the DUBLIN SOCIETY I make my appeal, that it is to that *respectable body* I submit my *case*, firmly convinced of their rectitude, my mind remains at rest.

BEFORE I conclude, permit me, my *much honoured Patrons*, to throw the *nature and importance* of these undertakings, into another point of view.

NEAR, or I believe something above, forty years you have been a SOCIETY, bending your attention to the improvement of agriculture: Soon after your establishment, I have already shewn, in a former publication, your early propensity to this object, by your letter to Mr. TULL, who lived at that time.

IN the spring of the year 1764, I had the honour of being taken under your consideration, and protection, in which I have ever since continued, pursuing under *your instructions* this desirable object; without any other recommendation, than your discernment of my endeavours to gratify your wishes, and expectations, in the service of a cause, which you apparently have at heart, from its being the *primum*, and *basis*, of your charter.

YOU have annually given me a sum of money, for carrying on, and extending your experiments, for the publick information; and a further sum, for establishing the factory already mentioned; and you have engaged me to take apprentices, to learn the art of a judicious, and practical husbandry.

THESE have been the *three* interesting objects, in which I have had the honour to act under your protection : You have regularly, every year, by your *unanimous* resolutions, honourably acquitted me of the trust you had committed to my care, for which I am *truly thankful* : You have repeatedly informed the free, and great assembly of the nation, of these, your transactions and engagements with me ; they have not expressed any disapprobation thereof ; it may therefore be implied, that they approve of these, your measures with me.

THIS whole and uniform tenor of your conduct has stamped a reputation upon my name, not only in this, but in some other nations, in these and other dominions ; which I have a pride in saying, I could never hoped to have obtained, without your *sanction* ; a sanction, which will ever do honour to my name. And at the same time, I hope, such of my enquiries, and machines, as the world are possessed of, are in no respect derogatory to the honour, and dignity of my Patrons.

THESE measures, in every stage of them, so interesting to the nation, and so new in themselves, have excited an *attention* in the publick, to the business of this place ; the exhibitions I have held forth in my fields, to publick inspection, have been productive of approbation ; they have excited a spirit of emulation through the kingdom, and every gentleman is become a *practical* farmer, *informing*, and *instructing*, his tenants and neighbours, from his *own experience*, and my *exhibitions* : I am become the correspondent, and adviser of hundreds ; all consider they have a *right* to apply to me for information and directions ; because, they consider these undertakings, the undertakings of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, *firmly established upon a solid basis*, for the publick service.

You have distributed over the kingdom 3500 books, containing an account of my experiments, for the publick information ; thereby, also informing them of these your undertakings, for their service ; and by your order, another thousand are to be prepared for those purposes.

FOR

FOR these undertakings, and the consequential expence of printing, you have in the course of five years, given me a large sum of money.

AND shall it now be said, after all these, *your measures* ; when my practice, must every day, render me more and more capable of promoting these salutary views ; that these undertakings shall die away, just as they are brought to a degree of perfection, to answer the end proposed ? and that the publick shall lose that resource they depended upon, and looked upon as established ? and which the whole tenor of your conduct has tacitly recommended to their imitation ? — If that shall be your will and pleasure ; I must, I will be contented.

BUT shall we see ourselves supplied with bread from a northern world, three thousand miles from us ? — Shall we hear of *all Europe* exerting herself in the improvement of agriculture, as the basis, and support, of every other art and manufacture ? and shall we give up, let die away, or starve undertakings, which have already shewn their utility, and which must eventually promote our *internal interest* ? — Be it so !

WHEN *France*, to her honour be it spoken, is exerting every power, and every measure to improve her agriculture, to vie with *England* in her capital trade of corn ; upon the plentiful growth, and lively exportation of which, it has been demonstrably proved, every capital manufacture she has, depends*.

FOR, at this time, there are “ *thirteen SOCIETIES* existing in *France*, established by royal approbation, for the promoting of agriculture ; and these thirteen SOCIETIES, have *nineteen* co-operating SOCIETIES belonging to them, where it happens that a district is too large to be effectually taken care of by one SOCIETY.”

“ THE art of agriculture is at present publicly taught in the *Swedish, Danish, and German Universities*. Nor has *Italy* been totally inactive. The dutchy of *Tuscany* has imbibed the same spirit ; and a private gentleman has left his

* See the Farmer's letters to the people of *England*.

his whole fortune to endow an academy of agriculture. Animated with a desire, that the people under his government should excel in husbandry, his *Sardinian* Majesty has sent subjects to learn the practice of foreign countries, and made several attempts to establish a better method of agriculture among his subjects. The proceedings, abilities, and application of the SOCIETY at *Bern* in *Switzerland*, almost rival every other SOCIETY in *Europe*. And *Sweden* has bestowed successful labour on a soil, which was before looked upon as cold, barren, and incapable of melioration. And *Denmark*, as well as many courts in *Germany*, follow the like example."

AMIDST this universal application, this torrent of zeal, in the cause of agriculture ; I cannot but regret, that any member of the DUBLIN SOCIETY should think unfavourably of undertakings, which certainly are preferable in point of information, and example, to any other yet adopted in other parts of the world ; and that more particularly, as yours is the *parent* of all other SOCIETIES of this kind : If I were alone in this opinion, I perhaps should not venture so boldly to offer it upon my own judgment ; but when a *respectable majority* of your body have hitherto supported these measures, I cannot, I hope be liable to censure, for thus declaring my sentiments.

WHERE disappointments, obloquy, misrepresentation, and severity fall upon a man, who is conscious of having amply done his duty ; and that he is reduced to the necessity (as I am) of committing such facts to paper, with remarks, and observations upon them, with an hope of removing the imputation thereby thrown upon him ; and to shew how his dependance has, by various means, been excited in publick faith ; I believe it is not in the power of a man, so circumstanced, if he cherishes and loves truth, to express himself without feelings, which animate, because such facts, are in themselves animating. To those, whose experience have taught them to know what the spirit of truth, honour, knowledge, and integrity mean, I appeal ; to those, whose chaste love of those virtues fills their minds with a fund of publick spirit, generous honesty, and undaunted truth, I submit my case: And therefore, if any thing exceptionable in
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the preceding pages has escaped my pen, or if I may have misconceived any matter, the *generous*, and the *feeling*, will permit me to entreat them to make allowances for a mind, *barrassed* with difficulties, *intimate* with misfortune, *wounded* by misrepresentations, and *fettered* by insufficiency ; in a service, in which, the most *intense* and *faithful* application has been employed, without *profit* or *emolument* to a family, whose dependance and happiness rests upon my success and health.

A SERVICE, in which I expected to have spent my life, with pleasure and happiness : because I flattered myself my conduct and endeavours had been such as were unexceptionable. But since I am so unhappy as to find, that some exceptions have been made, and that I had flattered myself with *too* much, in expecting to have the approbation of every man ; and that thereby, my undertakings are reduced to a *very precarious situation* ; I *beg* and *intreat*, that my *much honoured*, and *sincerely respected Patrons*, the DUBLIN SOCIETY, in their united capacity, will not attribute my resolution, of giving them entirely up, to any levity of disposition ; but to the *true* cause ; an utter impossibility of my pursuing them upon the present unprofitable, and *precarious terms*, longer, than the present year.

COULD I have escaped unmerited censure, had my support gone on in the channel I had so much reason to expect, and had misfortune spared me, I should not have been involved as I am ; but should have proceeded without complaint ; because no employment which could be devised, would so much gratify my taste and inclinations ; for there is delight in such enquiries, and happiness springs from contributing to the information, and advantage of mankind.

I HOPE, much has been done in that respect ; but comparatively nothing to what I could, and shall be bold to say, I am now capable of doing, were I properly supported ; not thus embarrassed, so often behind my back unjustly reproached, and so frequently in danger of losing that little, which, with submission, I thought my just due.

HAD the undertakings, or rather, the progress of them, been more united with the measures of the SOCIETY, and
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rendered in some degree subordinate to each other, more advantages had arisen to the cause they were calculated to promote ; but, it became not me to dictate ; and now to say what might have been, or may be done, availeth but little.

I SHALL conclude, with repeating my assurance to my *truly respected Patrons*, that nothing less, than the unhappiness I feel, at the mistaken representations which have been made, the impossibility of gentlemen's knowing my labour, application, and hazard, and my utter inability to proceed properly, and to my own mind, with the undertakings in question, could have prevailed upon me to trouble you with this remonstrance ; but as I wish every member of the SOCIETY to think of me as I really am, a well intentioned man ; I have the rather taken this method, that every gentleman, who shall be inclined to do so, may in his closet make himself acquainted with the circumstances here set forth, as to my case, and the nature of my employment under the SOCIETY : Whereas, had I troubled you with a memorial in manuscript, that would have only been the transaction of a day, some few of the members only would have been acquainted with it ; and the same conceptions, which have been injurious to me, might have remained upon the minds of gentlemen, who might not be present.

BUT I beg, that my printing this remonstrance may not be considered as an appeal to the publick, because that is not my intention. I mean only to submit my case to the DUBLIN SOCIETY ; and do not mean to publish this remonstrance in any other way, than by sending it to every member of the SOCIETY, without expence to any one.

IF it shall remove the mistakes, which some few gentlemen are under, and be productive of any enquiry into the merit, or demerit, of the undertakings I am engaged in ; their capability of affording benefit to the publick, and my conduct of them ; my whole intention will be answered ; for tho' I have been unfortunate, I wish it to be known, that I am industrious, and faithful.

AND

AND in whatever sphere my lot cast me, I shall ever retain a grateful remembrance of the confidence the DUBLIN SOCIETY have been pleased to repose in me, and of your repeated resolutions of my integrity, and application in your service.

And am, with the most genuine Sense

Of Respect, and Regard,

My much HONOURED PATRONS,

Your truly faithful,

And most obedient humble Servant,

JOHN WYNN BAKER.

Laughlinstown,
O^r. 26, 1769.

P. S. IF it shall happen, that any member, or members of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, shall not receive this remonstrance; I entreat that no gentleman may impute it to me, or to any intentional neglect, or disrespect; but where that may happen, I hope they will attribute it to the true cause; viz my not knowing how to convey it to them: and if, *by any means whatsoever*, any gentleman of the SOCIETY, may happen to escape my attention; I shall esteem it a mark of his favour, that he indulges me with a line, informing me how I can convey the sheets to him; because they can
be

be had no other way ; as my present intention is, not to publish this remonstrance to the perusal of any person, or persons, whomsoever, except the members of the DUBLIN SOCIETY.

E R R A T A.

I shall be much obliged to the reader for correcting any errors he may find, particularly the following conspicuous ones.

Page 7. l. 14. *has*, read, have. P. 10. l. 19. *that*, read, in which. l. 29. *fame*, read, reputation. P. 13. l. 33. *amongst*, read, amidst. P. 22. l. 21. *negivate*, read, negative. P. 23. l. 32. *indispensible*, read, indispensable. P. 25. l. 20. *poinard*, read poniard. P. 31. l. the last. *partrons*, read, patrons. P. 36. last line, after *same*, add, time. P. 37. *arrainging*, read, arraigning. P. 38. l. 3. *directions*, read, dimensions. l. 37, *impostures*, read, impostors. P. 75. l. 25. *near*, read, nearly. p. 80. *dficient*, read, inferior.

F I N I S.

